Salisbury University
Nabb Research Center
for Delmarva History and Culture
Chesapeake Bay
DE
MD
VA

Shoreline

Vol. 9, No. 9 • September 2002

For the Members of the Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture at Salisbury University

Woven Of Many Strands: Delmarva's African-American Heritage

Director's Dialogue

from Becky Miller

GENTLE READERS,

Exciting things are happening at the Nabb, which you'll read about within this issue. While not thrilling to everyone, I'm particularly happy about finally getting our archival materials in a better environment, as well as providing more research space in our reading room.

We're pleased to present this issue of *Shoreline* which contains several items of African-American Eastern Shore history, thanks to our guest writers. The Shore is full of multicultural history, but it has to be researched and presented. With our new collaboration with Dawn Many Feathers of the Lenni Lenape, who is assisting us with our collaborative exhibit about the Tondetank tribe at the Wicomico Heritage Center, the Nabb aspires to share Native American heritage as we learn it.

Good things are happening; the future is bright. The Nabb has a great new Dean: Alice Harrison Bahr, who appreciates the importance of our work and our function both academically and to the community.

Enjoy your newsletter!

Membership Information

THE EDWARD H. NABB RESEARCH CENTER FOR DELMARVA HISTORY AND CULTURE is your passport to Delmarva's past. Membership includes unlimited Nabb Research Center visits. You will also receive the *Shoreline* newsletter, Nabb Research Center bookmark and membership card. Plus, your membership entitles you to receive valuable discounts on Nabb Research Center publications, educational courses, advance sign-up for events and recognition in the Salisbury University Foundation annual report. Members also receive advance notice on sales such as the 1877 atlas when twice we had a cache of them and our current offerings in this newsletter. Memberships run on the calendar year, and the following levels of support are available:

21st Century	$1,000+
First Settlers	$500+
Old Somerset	$250+
Chesapeake	$100+
Tidewater	$55+
Delmarva Heritage	$30+
Shoreline	$15

Your membership renewals are due on January 1, 2003.

On the cover

Dinnerbell at an Eastville Tavern
Harper's New Monthly Magazine,
May, 1879, No. CCCXLVIII, Vol. LVIII

Submissions

Anyone interested in submitting an article to the *Shoreline* newsletter should send their item to the newsletter editor as follows:

Jill Jeffery
Research Coordinator
Nabb Research Center
Salisbury University
1101 Camden Avenue
Salisbury, MD 21801

or send an e-mail to **jnjeffery@salisbury.edu.**

We also welcome your comments and suggestions.

Shoreline

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Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture at Salisbury University

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Hours

Monday 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Tuesday - Friday 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Closings
September 28, 2002 - Pemberton Fair
October 23, 2002 - Board Meeting
November 28, 29 & 30 2002
December 21, 2002 - January 1, 2003

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Upcoming Events
At the Nabb Research Center

September 20-21

"Tracing Your Delmarva Ancestors" Seminar

Nabb Research Center and the Lower Delmarva Genealogical Society co-host the seminar "Tracing Your Delmarva Ancestors." The Maryland Genealogical Society is sponsoring the seminar, which will be held at Salisbury University. For more details, visit our Web site at http://nabbhistory.salisbury.edu.

September 23-27

GHOTES Conference

Genealogy and History of the Eastern Shore of Virginia will hold its third conference. Workshops, seminars and presentations on Eastern Shore history and genealogy from renowned researchers and historians, including Center Director Becky Miller and board members Jean Mihalyka and Francis Latimer. For more information visit the Web site at www.esva.net.ghotes.

Thursday, October 3

"The Rebel Is on Thy Shore—The Maryland Campaign of 1862" Lecture

Maryland Humanities Council Speakers Bureau Member Thomas G. Clemens will discuss the political and military dilemmas facing the Union and Confederate governments in the summer of 1862 and the powerful effects of the Maryland campaign on the direction of the Civil War. This event will be held in the Wicomico Room of SU's Guerrieri University Center and is free and open to the public.

Yesterday's News

by Rebecca Brooks, Archivist

I'm devoting this edition of "Yesterday's News" to the Nabb Center's recent archival move. In early June, the Nabb Center was given room to expand within the Power Professional Building. Our new space, formerly home to a portion of the SU Math and Computer Science Department, is adjacent to the current area we inhabit, but separated by one large obstacle–a firewall. After many discussions and much brainstorming, the staff decided the best use of this additional 1,100 square feet was as an expansion of the archives. Of the six new rooms we were granted, one has been converted to a new archival holdings room (the Archives Room), one to a new materials room (the Acquisitions Room) and one to an archival workroom (the Processing Room). The remainder of the new rooms are offices and will be kept as such.

By the second week in July, the carpenters were cutting through into the new space and installing a fire door between the archives and the current Nabb Center. After creating an entrance into the new space, we were ready to convert a classroom into an archives. There are many factors that go into creating an appropriate environment for archival storage–temperature and humidity control, security, controlled light exposure, archivally-safe shelving and appropriate space for current holdings as well as room to grow. To best fit our needs and budget constraints, I decided to create a bare-bones archival room. I had the carpet removed from the floors, as carpet tends to outgas over time, releasing chemicals into the air that could affect the archival materials. Under the carpet there was glue residue, so the carpet removers sanded the floor, leaving bare cement with the occasional spot and a rather funky design. Once the carpet was up, we found a half-inch crack in the floor running the width of the room that then needed to be repaired. The room has three windows which fortunately have black-out shades already installed–these shades will help keep the room dark as well as keep the temperature down.

Nabb Research Center Archives Room

The other two primary steps to organizing the room are setting up the shelving and transferring in the collections. In an attempt to make the room as archivally sound as possible all wooden shelves have been removed and replaced with metal. This step involved a little hands-on labor–GIS Technician Aaron Horner and Administrative Assistant Donna Messick constructed oversized metal shelving from existing shelving that formerly had wooden supports. Before we were granted the new space, the Nabb Center's archival holdings were dispersed throughout many rooms in the staff area. Each area had a focus–folklore, oversized boxes, standard-sized boxes and artifacts. In the new room all the archival materials will now be together, making for easier access and better environmental controls. Moving all the items into the new Archives Room is probably the most stressful of all the tasks. A key element of archives is the order of the materials–if items are not in the right place on the shelf then they cannot be found by staff and thus are unusable by researchers. Merging six rooms of material into one takes careful planning and practice.

The new Acquisitions Room is the holding area for materials waiting for processing. As our collections grow more each day, there are more materials needing arrangement and description. The Nabb Center has been bursting at the seams, materials filling not only offices and storage rooms, but also hallways. Now all the new materials will be in a climate-controlled, preprocessing room ensuring that they are protected from the moment they are donated.

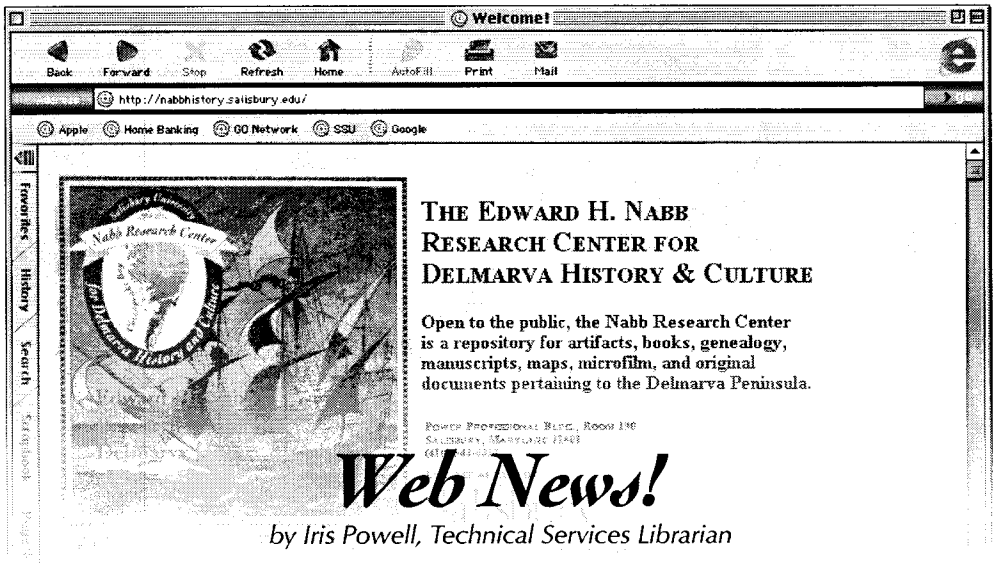
The third and final new room is the Processing Room. Prior to the expansion, all processing was completed in the office of the archivist, the Reading Room or any other space available. Now with a room dedicated to processing, materials can be properly assessed, organized, rehoused and prepared for use with fewer interruptions. The student archival assistants and I will have a separate work area and more space to examine collections.

With all the shifts in materials I, too, have moved. My new office has been relocated near the new Archives, Acquisitions and Processing rooms, creating an "archives wing" of the Nabb Center. Dr. Beth Ragan and her students are using the room I have vacated as an archaeology lab. My former room offers Ragan's students a sink, tiled floor and exterior access, allowing them a non-carpeted, central location for studying often times dirty objects found in the field.

Other Nabb Center staffers have moved as well. Reading Room Coordinator Jill Jeffery will now have an office in the staff area. This, and the addition of offices for graduate assistants and student workers, opens up more space in the Reading Room for researchers.

Last August, Nancy Davis, an objects conservator, completed an assessment for the Nabb Center, the result of a Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services. Davis offered many suggestions for improvement in her CAP report. Having the new wing with all the archival materials and staff in one area puts the Nabb Center closer to achieving many goals formulated from the assessment, namely easier retrieval of archival collections and better control over environmental conditions (temperature and humidity). Anyone who has visited our Reading Room knows that it is a bit chilly year round. The cooler temperatures help preserve the archival materials and books, keeping humidity down and keeping mold and other sources of destruction at bay. Although the temperatures in the Reading Room will remain cool, my coworkers will be happy to know that temperatures in the staff area will rise—with only one thermostat controlling both our offices and our archives, I used to keep the temps in the back between 65 and 68 degrees Fahrenheit. Now only my archival volunteers and I will still be that cool.

Just the other day Nabb Center Director Becky Miller mentioned to me something she recently read—moving an archives can be one of the most stressful events in any archivist's career. So, on your next visit to the Archives Room, keep in mind that while we may have been granted new space and we may be finished moving, we also may still be reeling from the experience. Our new space will allow us to better serve our patrons, but as after any big move, it might take some time for us to become acclimated to our new surroundings.



Web News!

by Iris Powell, Technical Services Librarian

Hello friends and fellow researchers, we are on vacation again. We will return home the beginning of next week. I hope everyone had a wonderful 4th of July! See you all soon, Chincoteague here we come!

So begins the inviting family Web site page for the the Todd Family of Caroline County (http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~carolines). Such personal and family Web sites have become a rich source of information for researchers. Not only do these pages provide a way to connect with immediate family, they also, through the generosity of the contributors, provide specific family history that can connect family members long distanced by time and space to each other historically and sometimes physically by reunion.

Commercially, the Internet has created an entrepreneurial opportunity for Web designers who have recognized the value and popularity of family Web sites by providing formatting tools.

MyFamily.com (www.myfamily.com) offers to create a family Web site in just three minutes. This site presents itself as a "leading network for connecting families and generations on the Web and is the largest and most active online community of its kind. Consistently ranked among the top 15 Internet properties worldwide in both page views and stickiness, MyFamily.com, Inc.'s network of sites is a key online destination for those interested in family history."

Another site is the DMOZ Open Directory Project (http://dmoz.org/Home/Family/Family_Websites/), which touts itself as "the largest, most comprehensive human-edited directory of the Web. It is constructed and maintained by a vast, global community of volunteer editors" and lists 1,950 family Web sites.

The Nabb Research Center on its links pages offers a list of family Web sites and invites its members to visit these sites and send us URL addresses for other family Web sites that provide family surname history and genealogy useful to our researchers.

Be on the lookout for our new Web site design at http://nabbhistory.salisbury.edu.

American Origins Update

by Professor Creston Long

During the summer months the Nabb Research Center has been working closely with the Salisbury University Mapping Science Group. Aaron Horner, the Nabb Research Center's GIS technician and Professor Michael Scott, as well as summer interns in the Geography Department, have been striving to digitize patent tracts for all of Somerset County. While this process is not difficult, the sheer number of patents has consumed a considerable amount of time. Meanwhile as the work on the mapping portion has been progressing well, the database of 17th and 18th century public records has continued to grow at an accelerated pace. This fall we have several history student interns assisting with the data management.

On the "back" phase of the project, the Mapping Science Group has also digitized portions of the *1877 Atlas of Somerset County*. GIS maps based on this source will reflect data gleaned from the 1870 and 1880 censuses. Although this effort has entailed a drastic leap ahead in time from the 17th and early 18th centuries, it will allow the Center to begin incorporating some of its manuscript collections into a digital format for viewing on the Internet.

William Probart Decree of Lunacy

Maryland Chancery Records Vol. 8, 653-654 [Old Volume IR#4]

Read the following petition:

To his excellency Samuel Ogle Esquire chancellor of Maryland The humble petition of William Lane of Worcester Gentlemen Sheweth the William Probart of Worcester County mariner intermarried your petitioner's daughter who is now alive whom the said William Probart hath had issue five children who are all alive that the said William Probart now is and for a considerable time hath been so far deprived of his Reason and understanding that he is rendered unfit and unable to manage his affairs and govern himself as by the affidavit annexed appears.

Your petitioner therefore most humbly prays your Excellency will be pleased that a commission in nature of a Writt of Lunatico Inquirendo may issue out of this Honorable court to enquire of the Lunacy of the said William Probart directed to such persons as your excellency shall think fit.

And your petitioner shall pray &c. William Lane

William Lane of Worcester County and Thomas Williamson of Ann Arundel County severally make oath and say that these deponents have known and been acquainted and frequently discussed with William Probart of Worcester county mariner for a considerable time past to wit. This deponent William lane for twelve years last year and this deponent Thomas Williamson for one year and upwards last past and these deponents further severally say that by frequently observing the behavior words and actions of the said William Probart they looked upon him to be a person deprived of his Reason and understanding in a very great degree and this deponent William Lane particularly saith that he the said William Probart hath often asserted that he was Governor of Maryland and Virginia within this month last past and hath written commissions for several persons to hold office in the said provinces and he hath declared that he would turn out and displace several officers in the said provinces, and also told this despondent that he had taken the City of Annapolis and secured the Paper Office and the money in it and that all the Houses in the said city were his own and that he would give this Deponent any house he would there chuse except the House of Mr. Tasker or Mr. Jenings which he chose for his own residence and this deponent further saith that it appeared to him that the said William Probart imagined that he could gain a property in what he desired by making a Broad Arrow upon it, and the Deponent Thomas Williamson particularly saith that sometime during the last provincial court the aforesaid William Probart came to the Bed Chamber of this deponent at night ordered him to get up and call his people together to seize a vessel called the Charles Town Schooner then lying in the Dock and these Deponents further severally say that they believe the said William Probart is a lunatick or distracted person and noway capable of governing himself or his estate.

William Lane
Thomas Williamson

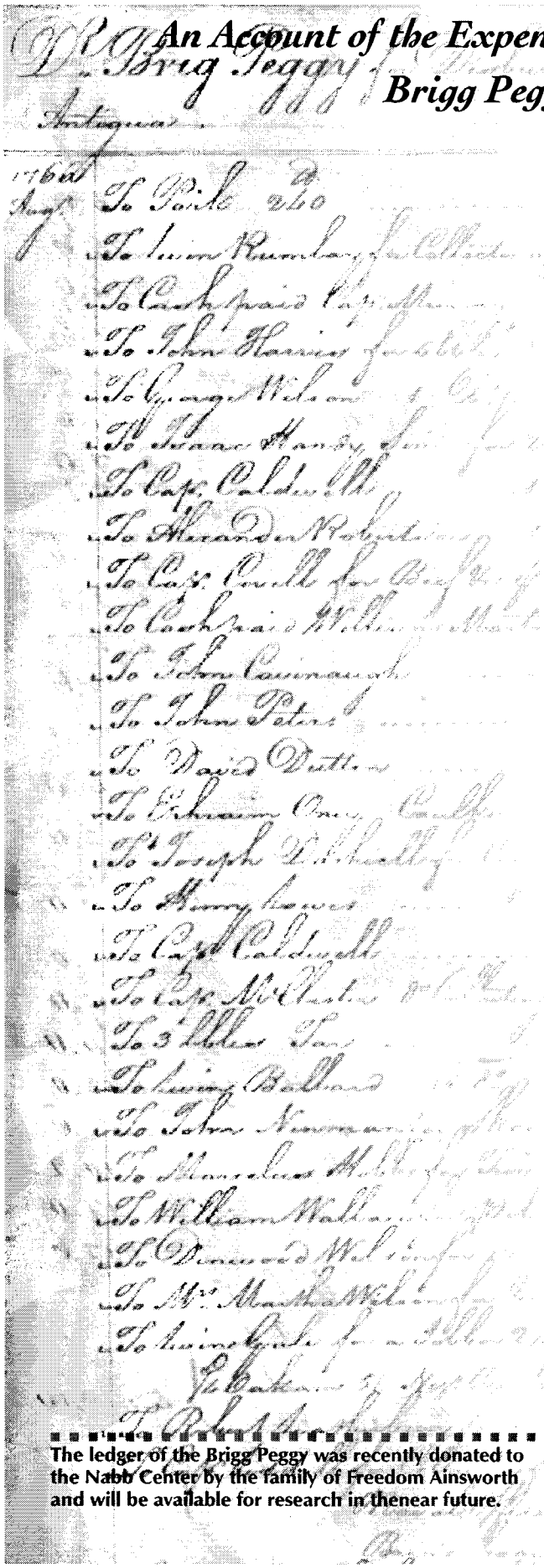
Sworn this 6th day of June 1751 Jno Brice

Let commission issue as prayed, directed to Messrs George Douglas, Moses Chaille, John Martin, Joseph Houston, Robert King Junior or any three of them. Samuel Ogle

Commission issued accordingly upon the motion ordered that the cause be entered abated by the Petitioners death.

This interesting document was transcribed by Dr. G. Ray Thompson, SU history professor and Nabb Board member.

An Account of the Expenses of Building and Fitting Out Brigg Peggy March 1766



		Sterling	Currency
The Hull including Iron & Smiths work } with diet & Lodging & al }			630.0.0
Cook & Cabin Stores pr. acct.		3.0.1	
Sundry Utensels pr. acct.		4.11.10	
Iron Mongers Bill		3.19.6	
Ankors.		26.4.0	
Ship Chandlers Bill		13.9.10 1/2	
Plumbers D°		11.13.3	
Rope Makers D°		197.7.0	
Braziers D°		6.6.6	
Sail Makers D°		58.6.5 1/4	
Sail Cloth as p Invoice & Insuring }		46.16.11	
£300 in the Samuel & Elizabeth }			
Freight & Primage on the above		11.6.6	
Custom House & other petty Charges		2.10.0	
		385.11.10 3/4	
Exchange at 68/3p Ct		263.9.9	649.1.7
Block Makers Bill	16.16.3		
Black Smiths d°.	5.4.11		
Turpentine 1 barrl	15.0		
Paint Oil	1.16.0		
Paper for the Cabin	1.12.0		
Virginia Money	26.4.2		
1____ on do	3.5.6	29.9.8	
Boat hire to Norfolk			2.5.0
Expences shere			2.2.0
D°. . . . . at Annapolis			4.0.0
Register			1.5.0
Paid the Collector for Signing do			1.5.0
Blocks fin Turpin prcct.			2.13.3
D° fin W.Geddes			1.0.0
Brought over & continued			Carried Over £1323.1.6
To Cap Liddell for 2 boyes work			10.0.0
To d°. for W. Marno his do. to this Jany			3.0.0
To d°. For bread			10.4.4
To ditto for a looking Glass			1.16.0
To paid Richd. Christopher for 45 } days work on the Rigging & Sailes }			6.19.0
To Provisions found d°. & boyes			5.0.0
D°. round from Manye			3.10.0
a Topmast and Yard			1.10.0
Pumpes & boxes			3.5.6
Oznabr. Expended on the Rigging			3.0.0
Iron Work from Cathel			1.16.8
Plank from Cap. Winder 448 feet} & Sending it onboard }			5.12.5
Sundries viz. Nails for the Cabin & 3 Iron potts fin H.J.			11.0.9
To Richard Christopher 1 p Mo. fitting the Rigging			6.0.0
To William Revell for Joiners Work p Bill			16.2.7 1/2
Levin Jones. . . . . d°.			13.10.0
John Jones. . . . . d°.			1.10.0
Benjamin Saucer. . . . . d°.			16.10 1/2
To Cap. Liddell for advance on £10.17.0} Virginia Money for Expences at Norfolk } Annapolis & at 12 p Ct. }			1.7.1 1/2
To John McGrath for Coopers work			5.5.0
Staves & heading for d°.			20.0.0
Flat & Negroes hire to M.Clester			4.0.0
Window Glass			.10.0
To Levin Dashiell for Rum			9.14.0
To paid for Locks			.18.6
To D°. for Cutting out Sails			1.7.0
To Will Kebble for hoops for MainSail			.9.0
			124.9.5 1/2
			£1472.11.3 1/2

Owners {Levin Gale /3 £490.17.1
{Henry Jackson D°. 490.17.1
{Henry Liddell D°. 490.17.1

The ledger of the Brigg Peggy was recently donated to the Nabb Center by the family of Freedom Ainsworth and will be available for research in thenear future.

Student Article

A Letter to My Brother

by Doris Gelbman

The letter that follows is one half of a fictional correspondence between two brothers, Thomas in England, and John in the New World. In a previous letter, Thomas, the elder of the two, has written to his younger brother John to inform him of their father's death. In his letter Thomas acknowledged that he has inherited the family fortune and also expresses some guilt at inheriting everything thus leaving the younger brother to make his own way entirely. As a result, Thomas offers to send something of his father's fortune to his brother in the Chesapeake colony of Maryland. In John's response (below) he analyzes what might be of value to him. The title of Lord Ridgely, given to Thomas, is also fictional. This letter was written by SU graduate Doris Gelbman as part of her U.S. History course with professor Peggy Gevert. Instead of writing a traditional biographical sketch, Doris wrote this imaginative letter.

County of SummerSet, Mary-land Colony
19th January 1698
My Dear Brother Thomas,

I have received with great sorrow your letter of 23rd October. To be so far from you and our grieving mother at this time is as great a hardship as I have born in all these many years away. Father's passing does not come as a great surprise given the state of his health these last months, but that does not lessen the sorrow. I hope that you will convey my condolences to our dear mother.

For you to be concerned with my well being here in the New World during this loss is thoughtful of you. I am certain that the family estates and your inherited duties as a Lord Ridgely are a great burden to you. As the eldest son of our noble family, it is your duty to manage the family's ancestral home while it is my lot to enhance the family fortunes here abroad. I know not which is the greater burden. I am deeply grateful for your willingness to help provision this poor example of a plantation.

Upon receipt of your offer, I pondered at length what items would be of greatest value. I lack so many comforts that it is hard to resist simply asking for the basic items of everyday life there in England–feather comforters and boulster, carpets, dishes, silver and cutlery, candlesticks to light my evenings and bookes–oh bookes! But on further contemplation, I must consider the long-term needs I have. What indeed will transform this plantation into a profitable concern? If it is possible to be profitable, I may one day be able to purchase these luxuries so easily taken for granted. To look about my poor holdings for ideas is of no help. I turned instead to the holdings of the successful planters of the region for inspiration. I look to their example to provide me with ideas of how best to succeed here upon the Chesapeake.

In the year of our Lord 1697, death continues to plague us–sickness and violence carry off many each year. Though the natives in this area are traditionally placid, periodic skirmishes with them occur when demon rum is on the loose. Occasionally too, one encounters other less desirable settlers–mostly rapscallion border-raiding Virginians–and these take the lives that disease and starvation leave behind. Some that died were destitute and leave behind little to inventory. However, two of our number had amassed great wealth. Mr. Daniel Selby and Mr. James Dashiell died within months of each other. Mr. Selby in January 1697/98 and Mr. Dashiell in September of the same year. As it happens, I am acquainted with the estate's appraisers in both cases. I discussed your letter and my dilemma with each of them. It was my good fortune that both were willing to allow me a review of the inventories of these decedents to determine what items in their possession might offer a clue to their success.

In so reviewing, we may suppose many things about these gentlemen. First, that they were indeed gentlemen. Gentleman farmers that is. It appears that both men were men of the land with substantial farming concerns to support them and their offspring. The value of their belongings (without Real Estate) is quite similar being valued at £228.118.0 and £ 232.01.6 respectively. Healthy sums to be sure. In examining these inventories, searching for the key to their success, I note many similarities in their households. Clearly both men are of learned background. Here in the New World, few men are literate to the degree that they would have more than a family Bible on hand. Both Mr. Selby and Mr. Dashiell own Bibles but other books are to be found in their possession as well, leading one to believe that they are men of some education. They were gentleman farmers in attire as well as education since both owned a fair number of clothing items or finished cloth to be used to make more. At table they must also have been well mannered since one finds napkins and table cloths and even gold rings for the napkins are at Mr. Selby's table. Finished furniture, beds, bedding, looking glasses and the like tell me they afford a level of comfort that we do not. Some children (perhaps now grown?) must be present since more than one bed or hammock is inventoried in both homes and several pairs of shoes are counted at Mr. Dashiell's. Both families appear to be entirely self sufficient. Cooper's tools at both homesteads allow them to make their own barrels and casks. Further, carpentry tools at Mr. Dashiell's confirms my notion that he is at some level, a carpenter as well. Mr. Selby's home must be a fine one indeed since one finds there a parcell of window glass instead of the oiled paper most of us insert for our windows (if we have any at all) thus gaining light but little view outward. In other ways too are our gentleman similar. Both have large holdings in livestock that account for much of their wealth. These include meat cattle for meat and milk both, other cattle for beef and hides, sheep for food and wool, pigs and shoats. In addition to livestock for food and by-products, both own horses that provide them mobility to manage their estates and travel to market towns to conduct business, socialize, buy seed, tools and the like. Curiously, for all their wealth, neither seems to own a cart or boat to transport goods. It would seem that what goods they produce, they consume, or, that transport (perhaps the barges that ply these creeks and shoals?) must come to them for portage to other markets. In the case of Mr. Dashiell, one expects that at least one of his several horses is a working animal as there is also a ploughshare, collar and harrow to be found here. I paused at great length on this item since in addition to lifting much labor from my weary shoulders, a horse and ploughshare might be hired out to neighboring planters and a source of cash would allow me to send for other items at a later date. But there is more to consider.

A somewhat unique item is found on hand at Mr. Selby's home. There one finds, in addition to the spinning wheels that most of us possess, a loom and gears to produce finished cloth. This would provide a home with a much needed commodities, cloth for clothing, drapes, bedding, mosquito cover and more–while at the same time providing a home industry of sorts to gain some cash or tobacco from the others in the community, or even to trade with the Natives. But I know not how to use a loom and have no one to weave for me.

I continued down the lists past guns and kettles, pestels and mortars, finished furniture, stillyards and scales, potts and hooks, deer skins, shovels, pitchforks and other farm tools found in most of our homes. Then I pause again at 196 foot of plancking in Mr. Dashiell's possession valued at a mere 14 shillings. Not because I would have you send such a thing from England. I hesitate while I calculate the amount of time and labor to cut and finish these plancks and their value to us as building materials. Shipbuilding and shipstores are an industry greatly thriving in these parts. I reflect that were it not for the seemingly unending supply of extraordinarily tall, arrow-straight loblolly trees in these parts, there would not be such plancking so inexpensively found.

The similarities defined, what have I learned that is of value? In part, it is the loom and ploughshare in each of the respective estates. These items provide my neighbors with finished products, labor savings and cash. However, the truly significant holding is to be seen near the very end of Mr. Dashiell's inventory. There, after the branding irons, boots and old swords, are the Six Negros. Unlike the livestock, which is separated into Mares, Colts and Horses, we know not whether our negros are male or female. Nor, unlike our sword, do we know if they are young or old. They have no names and are but a single entry: 6 Negros. However, we do know that said negros account for more than a third of his wealth at eighty-six pounds sterling for the lot of six.

In this difficult life, it is more than a small comfort to have another beast of burden to take over the difficult labor we have here come to expect. In addition to growing and producing everything we eat, wear, or use, tobacco farming is a

difficult life. Tobacco seed must be planted by hand. Then the tiny plants, when they have germinated, must be transferred to the soil. These delicate plants are carefully tended and when they reach a certain height, they are topped in the sweltering, humid days of late July and August where sweat and sticky tobacco sap combine to make a man dizzy with fatigue. Then the tall plants with broad, heavy leaves must be harvested by hand with great sweeping cuts of a large, heavy cane knife. Curing tobacco is also a laborious process. It requires agility and speed as well as strength to stake and hang tobacco. The tobacco must now cure for months in barns that must be built large enough to accommodate the airing of the long bound sheaves.

The planter with a healthy lot of cooperative slaves can raise far more tobacco than his neighbors can. Slaves too, like the horse and ploughshare, may be hired out to nearby plantations to assist others thereby providing another source of cash to their owner.

Thus, as I perused Mr. Dashiell's inventory, I realized I was mistaken in my initial belief that he must have come from some gentlemanly background. Fooled was I by his bookes and Bible, his fine clothes, razor and hone, bedsteads and ruggs. Mr. Dashiell's occupation is not Gentleman Farmer, Cooper or Carpenter as I originally supposed. Mr. Dashiell 's livelihood is slaveholder. The profits of his plantation are the result of sweat from another's brow.

What then of Mr. Selby's estate? Here one must return to the finished products of that spinning wheel and especially those looms and gears: Yards of Dimity, Woolen Cloth, Linen. All those featherbeds sheets, drapes, pillows and boulsters! Warm woolen blanketts and coats with lined trousers! When thought about more carefully, one considers that someone—most likely not Mr. Selby himself—is producing all those marvelous works of warmth and comfort. Here too is unpaid and unacknowledged labor. Like the slaves of Mr. Dashiell, Mr. Selby has chattel though it is not listed: his wife. She not only produces the fine products of her spinning wheels and loom and sews them into the finished products—she warms the sheets and boulsters she produces for him!

What then am I asking for? Slaves? Certainly not! The very thought is abhorrent to me. In fact I hope that you will consider divesting father's estate of the holdings in the Caribbean that profit so highly from this trade. Would that you could witness for yourself the accommodation and food they are provided. It is worse than that of our livestock. They are often forced to perform labor not required of beasts and even sexual favors for their masters. I cannot think of a more sinful practice than the institution of slavery.

But when I consider the alternative, a wife, a helpmeet, a woman to keep me company in this lonely land—that is something I could use! Here in the Chesapeake colonies of Maryland, we men outnumber women some six to one. Worse yet, of those women available, many are "spoiled" former indentured girls not fit for marriage to a gentleman.

Thomas my dear brother, I beg of you to find me a suitable wife in England. Surely there is some young maiden in one of our cottages that would be suitable and willing. Should we pay her passage, we would also benefit by an additional land-grant of fifty acres headright. If she comes with a dowry as well as all her teeth, so much the better. A young girl with honest (if not high born) family background, strong shoulders and wide hips will do nicely. Should she come equipped with a Hope Chest of feather beds, boulsters and pillows and perhaps even a spinning wheel and loom she would be most welcome. I will take good care of her, protecting her from Indians and militiamen alike. I ask only that she be able to cook, clean, help with farmyard chores and produce many children who in turn may help us on the plantation. My meager supply of livestock will eventually flourish of its own accord with breeding into the neighbors stocks. However, sons that become strong young men , that will make this plantation far more profitable indeed. Greater profit will allow us to send for more finished products, creature comforts and tools such as we may need that I cannot myself manufacture or trade for here in America. A wife and sons will also help me to build a real plantation house to replace this daub and wattle hut I call home. Then my brother, our family name will become a grand and aristocratic one on both sides of the Atlantic. It is the generations that are to follow us that I have considered most of all.

I hope my dear brother, that your next correspondence is delivered by hand—the hand of my bride to be. Thank you again for your generosity in both thought and deed and congratulations on your inheritance and elevation to the peerage. I hope this letter finds you, your wife, children and our beloved mother in good health. I await your reply and remain

Your Brother,
John

Snow Hill Postmasters

The following excerpt was taken from the *Accomac Peninsula Enterprise* dated October 4, 1946, and was provided to the Nabb Research Center courtesy of B. Miles Barnes.

Snow Hill Postmasters

This office was commissioned June 8, 1792, by Timothy Pickering, postmaster general, but was not officially established until March 20, 1793, with James Duer as first postmaster. His successors and the dates of their appointments are as follows:

James Duer	March 20, 1793
Robert Nairne	April 1, 1795
Samuel Gunn	January 1, 1796
George Ross	January 1, 1797
Joshua Fleming	July 1. 1802
James Givan	October 1, 1804
Henry Parker	January 1, 1805
Joshua Fleming Jr.	January 1, 1806
Levi Bishop	October 1, 1806
Isaac P. Smith	July 1, 1807
Francis Rosse	April 6, 1808
Levi M. Benson	April 1, 1815
Ralph Melbourn	April 1, 1816
Joseph Hutchinson	June 23, 1817
Joseph Hutchinson	April 1, 1819
Levin Townsend	April 1, 1826
Levin Townsend	April 18, 1831
Levin Townsend	March 17, 1837
Richard T. Waters	Sept. 14, 1844
James S. Jones	April 3, 1849
Zadock T. Selby	June 10, 1853
Thomas Hamil	Dec. 12, 1856
Thomas F. Stevens	May 7, 1858
John E. LeCompte	March 27, 1861
George T. LeCompte	August 13, 1869
James S. LeCompte	Dec. 5, 1870
George H. Richardson	May 24, 1882
James D. Hack	June 19, 1886
Charles W. Farrow	July 27, 1897
Re-appointed	May 21, 1902
Re-appointed	January 12, 1907
Asbury C. Riley	January 11, 1909
James S. Price	January 24, 1914
Charles W. Farrow	Sept. 5, 1918
Asbury C. Riley (Acting)	Dec. 6, 1921
David S. Hickman	Dec.14, 1922
Re-appointed	Jan. 27, 1927
Herbert W. Mason (Acting)	June 12, 1931
Herbert W. Mason (Regular)	January 1, 1932
Elliot W. Marshall (Acting)	January 11, 1936
Elliott W. Marshall (Regular)	June 11, 1936
Re-appointed	June 1, 1940
Died in office	Sept. 29, 1945
William Julian Vincent	Nov. 15, 1945

This office was the 163d to be established within the United States. (U. S. Post Office Dept. Library Year Book 1793-94).

Washington,
July 17, 1946.
Copy to Charlie Higgins, Snow Hill

Woven of Many Strands: Delmarva's African-American Heritage

My African-American Waters Ancestors

by Robyn Smith

This photo is of the first graduating class of the Delaware Conference Academy (now UMES) in 1894.
Photo courtesy of UMES

Historical Background

My Waters lineage stretches back 200 years and counting on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, beginning in Somerset County. My ancestors had been free blacks since the early 1800s. There was a fairly sizeable concentration of free blacks living on the Lower Eastern Shore (Somerset, Wicomico, Dorchester and Worcester counties) who had been born free, particularly in the mid-1700s, and then again in the period after 1810[1]. Mostly due to these periods of natural increase, Maryland became a state with one of the largest free black populations in the country prior to the Civil War.

Because Maryland remained in the Union (although the state was virtually split in terms of pro- and anti-slavery sentiment) slaves were not freed via Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. They were freed by a new state constitution that took effect in November 1864. In the antebellum period, blacks could be freed by one of three mechanisms: manumission (usually by deed), by will or by immigration into the State as freed blacks. Changes to the laws were made from time to time, but there was always some route to freedom available.

The free black population of Maryland was met with significant resistance and severe restrictions on their lives via the Black Codes. Black Codes was the name collectively given to the group of laws that developed and served to segregate and restrict the lives of blacks. Because of these laws, life for Maryland's free blacks was not very different from slavery. They were barred from public schools and could not give legal testimony against whites in court. According to Dr. McKelvey of Sojourner-Douglas College[2]:

> [A free black] could only sell certain products to other blacks–he couldn't sell to whites. He had to be off the street sooner than [whites]. He couldn't own a dog. If he didn't have a job, he had to pay a $15 fine and leave the state. These laws were set so that you could not rise.

Free blacks were in constant fear of being kidnapped and sold back into slavery from one of the many slave catchers who operated on the Shore, such as the notorious Patsy Cannon. Scholars have suggested that free blacks were "more black than free." So, although my ancestors were legally free much earlier than the masses of black Americans, they still faced many of the obstacles and social barriers conferred by their race.

[Note: This article is not meant to provide an exhaustive examination of the issues of slavery, freedmen or abolition on the Eastern Shore, although it will touch on some of the issues as they have related to my own research. Excellent resources are available on these subjects and have provided me with much needed background information, and titles will be listed at the close of this article].

Building on right, parsonage in Bridgeville, DE, where D.G. Waters once lived.

Pauline C. Waters/Daniel G. Waters

My story begins in a small town on the Shore called Stillpond, MD, where my grandmother, **Pauline Celeste Waters**, was born in April 1915. She can be found as a young girl on the 1920 Caroline County census. My grandmother was the eldest child and only daughter of six children. Pauline was born into a life more privileged than the average African-American woman born in the early 20th century for one reason: She was the child of a minister. Her father, **Daniel George Waters**, was born June 17, 1875, according to his World War II draft registration card.

Daniel was a Methodist minister with the Delaware Conference of Colored Ministers. The Methodist Church was one of the earliest bodies in this country to actively take an anti-slavery stance (the other noted group being the Quakers). The Delaware Conference is a fascinating group that was formed toward the end of the Civil War in 1864. By 1886, the Conference claimed some 15,334 blacks as members, owned $250,000 in property and had constructed a large Methodist church in Princess Anne, Metropolitan United Methodist Church[3]. The Delaware Conference became a driving force in the transformation of the lives of blacks on the Eastern Shore.

Pauline's father, "Papa" as she affectionately called him, was a strong, proud, well-respected minister who was staunchly dedicated to serving God and raising his family. Their lives were centered around the church. "I know that Papa was ordained by God to preach the Word. He was indeed the priest in our home," my grandmother recalled. "Bible reading and prayers with Papa on his knees was a regular happening in our home."

Education was also a priority and shaped by the Methodist Church affiliation; Pauline attended a Methodist college (Bennett College in North Carolina) and in 1960 received her master's degree in education from New York University. She took her first job at a Methodist training school for girls in Jacksonville, FL, and married a man who would later himself become a minister. Pauline passed away in April 1997, but not before crafting her autobiography, *By God's Grace: A Personal Testimony*, which remains a treasure to her descendants. Serving the gospel was truly the framework for my grandmother's entire life. This was not surprising since she was named after Paul, the biblical apostle.

Pauline was accustomed to constant change: because of the nature of ministry, the family moved often while she was growing up. Daniel started and/or pastored churches in several places including Salisbury, Easton and Preston, MD, and Laurel and Bridgeville, DE. Daniel G. Waters' obituary[4], from the Annual Minutes of the Conference gives a glimpse into his life:

> Daniel G. Waters, son of the late Samuel and Mollie Waters, was born at Upper Fairmount, Somerset County, Maryland, over 80 years ago. He departed this life on Friday, May 10, 1957, at 2:40 p.m. in the Governor Bacon Health Center, Delaware City, DE.
>
> He became a Christian at a very early age. He was educated in the public schools of Somerset County. Although deprived through death of a devoted father in childhood, he learned the value of Christian education through an attentive and alertful mother. He sought to increase his knowledge through private instruction and he became a hard and well-read student.
>
> He felt keenly the call to the ministry and went about preparing himself as best he could for it. He entered Princess Anne Academy, Princess Anne, MD, but was unable to stay because of financial difficulties; however, this did not lessen his zeal for knowledge. He took up studies through correspondence in the Chicago School of Theology which fitted him to enter the Delaware Conference later.

The Chipman Cultural Center in Salisbury. The house next to it is the parsonage where D.C. Waters and his family lived while he was pastor.

In February of this year I had the pleasure of visiting some of these cities and seeing several of the churches and parsonages where the family lived.

Daniel also had a small side business in the crabbing and oystering in Easton, MD, something I'm sure he became well acquainted with growing up on the Shore. Blacks have a long but little-known history in the community as watermen[5] (i.e., jobs such as skipjacks, oyster shuckers, harvesting fish and crabs, etc.). An excellent reference on the subject is the

book, *Black Jacks: African-American Seamen in the Age of Sail*, by W. Jeffrey Bolster. In fact, black watermen were so common on the Shore, Frederick Douglass tells in his autobiography of donning a black sailor's uniform during his historic escape[6]! The thousands of black seamen were required to carry Seamen's Protection Certificates in case of capture, an example of which can be viewed at the Library of Congress' Web site on the African-American Odyssey, http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/aaohtml/exhibit/aopart2.html

By the late 19th century the Chesapeake Bay area became the primary source of oysters in the U.S. The availability of jobs as watermen, particularly after the Civil War, shaped the economic fortunes of many African-Americans on the Shore. Two thriving communities developed in antebellum times, Upper Freetown and Lower Freetown, right outside Upper Fairmount[7]. They were later known as Upper Hill and Lower Hill. A quick glance at the census schedules for 1880 and 1900 reveals page after page of blacks in Eastern Shore counties listed in such occupations directly related to the thriving Bay industry: waterman, sailor, oyster shucker. "My mother, brother and I would go to Maryland for a month every summer," remembers my father Paul Smith, "my granddaddy would take us crabbing and that was such a big excitement for us." It's no wonder that delectable seafood dishes like oyster fritters, crab cakes and mackerel remained favorites of my grandmother and great-uncles their entire lives. I've been the biggest oddity in all of this because I don't eat seafood!

Daniel's wife, **Beatrice Prather**, was actually his third wife—Daniel was twice widowed. My great-grandmother Beatrice was an amazing woman who was a teacher educated at Cheyney Normal School in Pennsylvania and later earned another degree in nursing. Attaining college degrees in the early 20th century was no small feat for an African-American woman and speaks to a degree of economic opportunity Beatrice's own family afforded her even before her marriage to the prominent Rev. Daniel G. Waters. Daniel was a stern and serious man, but took particular pleasure in gardening and maintaining an immaculate home which he considered to be the "pastor's duty."

1880 - Fairmount District
Samuel Waters - 31
Mollie - 24
Maria - 8
Daniel - 6

Daniel had five children with his first two wives, and six with Beatrice, so there were 11 children total. According to my grandmother, Daniel made sure all of the children had proper relationships with one another. Little is known about Daniel's father, **Samuel Waters**. Samuel was born ca. 1849, probably in Fairmount, MD, and the family can be found on the 1880 Somerset County census. According to Daniel's obituary, Samuel died while his son Daniel was still a young boy.

Daniel James Waters

Moving further up the Waters family tree, Samuel's father was also named **Daniel (James) Waters** (1824-1899). This points to one of the most important contextual clues in African-American research: the naming tradition. It was extremely common for children to be named after aunts, uncles and grandparents. In fact, that occurs on both sides of my tree—my maternal grandmother and her siblings were all named after aunts and uncles. It is said that this tradition comes from the period of slavery. Because families were very often torn apart never to see one another again, names became the only ties that many slaves and ex-slaves had to family members.

Daniel James Waters was also a minister with the Delaware Conference of Methodist Ministers. He and his wife **Fanny Fountain** (another surname historically connected to this area) were listed on the 1850,1860 and 1870 Somerset County census schedules. They were listed in 1850 and 1860 only because they were free blacks—the majority of black Americans, who were slaves, don't appear on the U.S. census schedules until 1870.

Much of my research focuses on this Waters ancestor because his generation bridges the gap between my known and unknown Waters ancestry. Daniel had a sister, Harriett, and at least three other siblings whose names are still unknown. I connected with one of Harriett's descendants about four years ago via the Internet—my new-found cousin Rev. David Briddell. Rev. Briddell currently resides with his wife, Jane, in Englewood, NJ, but grew up on the Shore and still maintains a home in the area. We continue to research this Waters line together.

There was another prominent black Methodist minister in the area, **Joseph Robert Waters**, who was a founder of Princess Anne Academy; the school is currently the University of Maryland at Eastern Shore[8]. The Princess Anne Academy, under the strict academic and moral leadership of the Delaware Conference, was responsible for the earliest formal education of the Shore's African-American citizens. The book, *Somerset County: A Pictorial History*, by Brice Neal Stump, has some wonderful photographs of the school and some of the graduates (several Waters are shown), as well as a photo of Joseph R. Waters.

Joseph's father was **Samuel Griffin Waters**—yet another black minister with the Delaware conference. Cousin David and I strongly suspect that Samuel Griffin Waters and the above Daniel J. Waters were brothers. One clue is that they both married women with the surname Fountain—perhaps two sisters? (Samuel G. married Henrietta Fountain; Daniel James married Fanny Fountain.) Another clue, in addition to the ministry ties, is that Daniel named his son Samuel—which would be in line with the naming traditions mentioned above. His sister Harriett also named one of her sons Samuel. The following is from Daniel James Waters' obituary[9], also from the Conference Annual Minutes:

1850 - Brinkley's District
Daniel Waters - 30
Fanny - 28
Mary - 3
Samuel 1

1860 - Potato Neck District
Daniel Waters - 40
Fanny - 30
Mary - 12
Daniel - 10
Samuel - 8
Henrietta - 7
Sally - 5
Lavinia - 4
Infant - 1

1870 - Potato Neck District
Daniel J. Waters - 45
Fanny - 44
Mary - 22
George - 28
Daniel - 18
Lovinia - 1
Maria 10
George 4

> This hero fought well and conquered.
> Daniel James Waters, the son of Joshua and Leah Waters, was born in Fairmount, Somerset County, MD, in the year of our Lord, 1824. He died in the triumph of faith August 5th, 1899, at 7 PM. He was converted at the age of 18, and he

immediately attached himself to the Methodist Episcopal Church, where he remained a faithful member until he was called to his reward above.

Early in life, young Daniel became an example amongst the young men of his class, and it was by the fortitude of this man and others, that the local option law was established in Fairmount, MD.

The gifts of God to him, sanctified by grace, caused him to be licensed a local preacher, and although deprived of an education in early life, he became a good reader and a very acceptable preacher. In 1870, we became acquainted with him, being appointed pastor of Fairmount that year ...

To know Daniel J. Waters was to love him. His Christian character and untiring zeal for the cause of Christ won all persons to him. Mr. Hamilton, of Fairmount, who in 1864 to 1876 had about 350 persons employed, said to me, "That man can do more work and do more preaching than any man I ever knew." Therefore, all the people loved him. His home was a palace. The pulpit was his throne, and all of his life work was the extension of the kingdom of Christ ...

The long history of involvement with the church (which is very well documented) is one of the reasons I was able to find out so much information about this line in a relatively short amount of time. The power and influence of the Methodist Church in the lives of African-Americans in Somerset County in this time frame cannot be overemphasized. One church, Centennial Methodist Episcopal, was organized in Fairmount in 1860. Legend says that a white congregation permitted the black community to use the structure for worship purposes; the blacks were able to purchase the building in 1884[10]. I have a copy of the church records from the year 1862. Samuel Waters was listed as the "Colored" preacher (perhaps the Samuel G. Waters mentioned above?). The colored membership list for that year also includes 31 blacks with the surname Waters, including my ancestors Daniel and his wife Fanny. The church records paint a good picture of what probably were most of the African-American members of the Upper Hill community during the Civil War period. The two-level, white frame church building still stands today (it was active until 1999) and the cemetery in the rear of the church includes numerous family members.

Joshua Waters

The last link I have in my chain thus far is Daniel's father, my great-great-great-great grandfather **Joshua Waters.** He was born ca. 1776; the location of his birth is unknown. The majority of African slaves were in this country by 1800, either directly from Africa, or more likely, from Africa via the Caribbean. So it is entirely possible that he was my first Waters ancestor born in Africa. Joshua was owned by **Susan(na) Waters**, and the following is an excerpt from the deed of manumission, dated February 1819:

> To all whom it may concern be it known that I Susan Waters of Somerset County in the State of Maryland for divers good causes and consideration me thereunto moving and also in further consideration of twenty dollars current money to me in hand paid have released from slavery—liberated, manumitted and set free, and by these presents do hereby release from slavery liberate manumit and set free my Negro man named Joshua being of the age of forty three years ...

Susanna Waters was a part of the Waters family, a very large and prestigious family whose roots trace back to the early 17th century on the Eastern Shores of Virginia and Maryland. There have been many published articles and books about this family that I have used as reference guides[11]. Two of Somerset County's oldest and most distinctive period homes, Tudor Hall and Waters River, belonged to the members of the Waters family. Susanna (whose maiden name I believe to be Jacob) married **Thomas Waters** (1744-1817) in 1799 in Northampton County, VA[12]. They made their home in Somerset County. Thomas was Susanna's fourth husband; Susanna is at least Thomas' second wife.

Susanna is an interesting woman. Thomas and Susan had no children, but when she died (ca. 1832—birth date unknown) she left one of the lengthiest wills[13] of any I've seen and provided great provision for her current slaves as well as several she 'd already manumitted (including Joshua).

Centennial Church, Fairmont, MD

Here is an excerpt from Susan's will, dated April 10, 1828:

> ... Unto Nelly and Joshua during their natural lives two acres of land on the water near the cow gut landing to be designated by my executor, my loom with all my weaving implements ... to Leah, 150 weight of pork and two barrels of corn ... to Hannah and her son Jim, the liberty of living in the house built for them in the orchard, 100 weight of pork and two barrels of corn ... all my remaining Negroes above the age of twenty-two to be free from servitude in any wise whatsoever ...

When researching slave ancestors, the fact that slaves were considered personal property necessitates a thorough genealogical study of the slave owner's family in order to find more information about the slaves. I've always thought that an interesting irony. And because this family was a multi-generational, slave-owning family, with several inter-marriages between cousins, I've had a particularly cumbersome and difficult time. Moreover, the members of this family tended to also name each generation after the previous, so there are Williams and Marys and Richards and Sarahs everywhere. It does help that Somerset County has the most complete set of records of any of Maryland's counties. I continue to trace the disposition of the Waters slaves through estate inventories, bills of sale, wills, gift deeds, and other primary sources, and expect that I will be doing so for some time.

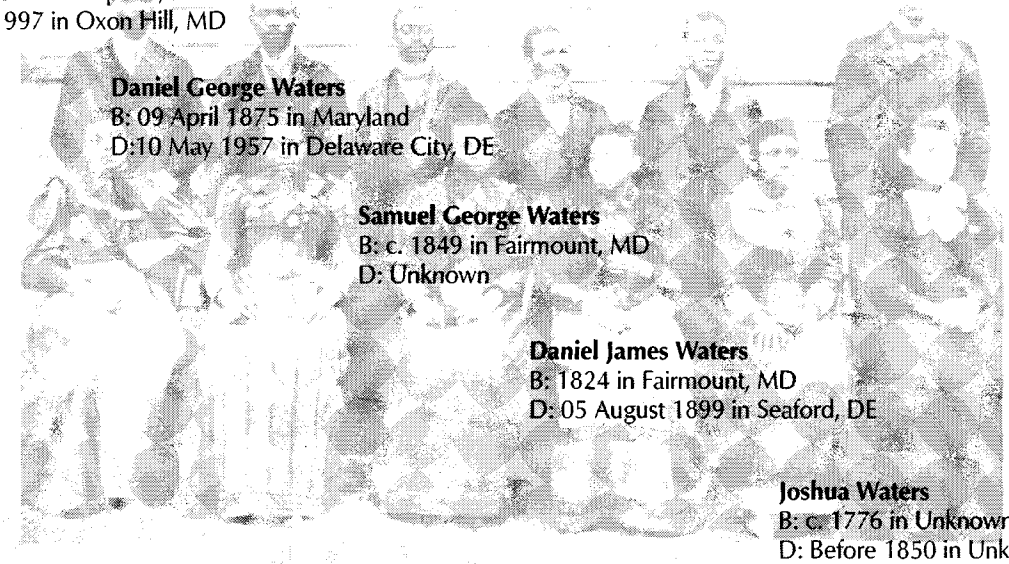
Several people in this Waters family were prominent Quakers[14]. Quakers abhorred the institution of slavery and worked actively toward the principles of abolition. Documents also suggest their involvement in the Underground Railroad–the secret network of persons and passages helping slaves to escape to freedom in the North. About the time that Joshua was freed, several members of the Waters family manumitted slaves, particularly Richard E. Waters, Francis H. Waters and Susan Waters. Unfortunately, Quakerism as a strong force in the area declined starting in the 18th century. Because of the strict rules of Quakerism, many lost their membership, and others began a rapid exodus from the area, perhaps because of the strong pro-slavery sentiments.

I find Joshua listed for the first time on the 1820 Somerset County census schedules as an older man (in line with the age given on his manumission the previous year), apparently with a wife and six children in the household. Somerset County 1830 census schedules are not extant, but for free blacks, a curious substitution can be found. In 1832, a census was taken of free blacks in the state–this was for the dubious purposes of resettlement to Liberia, Africa, via the growing Colonization movement. This was seen as a means of curtailing the growing free-black population which was widely viewed as a threat to the institution of slavery. Despite the effort, very few actually sailed to Africa. And unfortunately, the listing for Somerset County records the men and women separately and not by household, which would have been of much more usefulness. Joshua can also be also found on the 1840 census, near a Joshua Jr., who may possibly be a son. Joshua appears to have died by 1850.

Learning more about my Waters ancestry on the Eastern Shore these past five years has been, and continues to be, rewarding in many ways. Much of my research has been conducted at the Maryland State Archives, National Archives, Maryland Historical Society, and of course, my visit to the Nabb Center advanced my knowledge in leaps and bounds. I'm enjoying the process of discovering the rich story of freedmen and slaves, churches, abolitionists, and the dynamics between the different forces at work over two and a half centuries. My search for my Waters ancestors continues, currently focusing on uncovering the siblings of Daniel James Waters and the roots of ownership for Joshua Waters. I welcome your questions or comments (especially research help!) at morganalumni@hotmail.com.

My Waters Ancestry

Pauline Celeste Waters
B: 13 April 1915 in Stillpond, MD
D: 21 April 1997 in Oxon Hill, MD



Daniel George Waters
B: 09 April 1875 in Maryland
D:10 May 1957 in Delaware City, DE

Samuel George Waters
B: c. 1849 in Fairmount, MD
D: Unknown

Daniel James Waters
B: 1824 in Fairmount, MD
D: 05 August 1899 in Seaford, DE

Joshua Waters
B: c. 1776 in Unknown
D: Before 1850 in Unknown

Suggested Reading:

Maryland's Eastern Shore: A Journey in Time and Place, by John Wennersten (and anything else written by John Wennersten!), Tidewater Publishers, 1992.
Slavery and Freedom on the Middle Ground: Maryland During the 19th Century, by Barbara Jeanne Fields, Yale University Press, 1985.
Maryland's Persistent Pursuit to End Slavery, 1850-1864, by Anita Aidt Guy, Garland Publishers, 1997.
The Free Negro in Maryland, 1634-1860, by James M. Wright, Columbia University Press, 1921.
The Black Family in Slavery and Freedom: 1750-1925, by Herbert Gutman, Vintage, 1977.
The Negro in Maryland: A Study of the Institution of Slavery, by Jeffrey Brackett, Negro Universities Press, 1969 (Reprint).
Finding A Place Called Home: A Guide to African-American Genealogy and Historical Identity, by Dee Parmer Woodtor, Ph.D., Random House, 1999.

Endnotes

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13 Somerset County, MD, Wills and Administrations, Liber JP4:195-196.
14 Torrence, Clayton. *Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, Baltimore: 1966, pgs.92-93.

Robyn Smith was born in Washington, D.C., and grew up in Prince George's County, MD. She is currently a senior security engineer near Fort Meade, MD. She began her family history research just over five years ago and has been hooked ever since.

Buffalo Soldier Youth Camp Held at SU

In August, the Thomas E. Polk Sr. Chapter of the 9th and 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association of the Buffalo Soldiers hosted its third youth camp at Salisbury University. Nabb Research Center Board Member and History Department Professor Clara Small spearheaded this effort.

The Buffalo Soldier Camp provides an opportunity for children ages 11-15 from Wicomico, Somerset and Worcester counties to learn different skills, including basic first aid, military field drill maneuvers and horseback riding. During the week-long camp, the children also learn about local history and the history of the Buffalo Soldiers. This year, the group hosted 20 children, but Small hopes to expand the camp next year to 50 children.

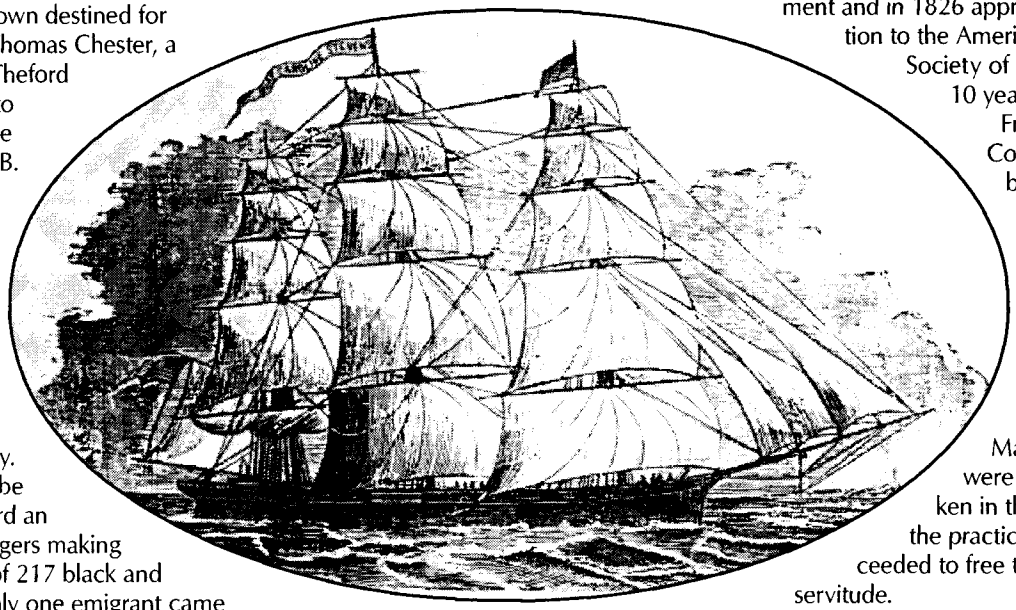
The Mary Caroline Stevens:
A Peerless Clipper During a Perilous Time

by Robert T. Stevens, III

Wide-sounding Zeus tales away half a man's worth
On the day when slavery comes upon him.
Homer. c. 700 B.C.

I am the inferior of any man whose rights I trample under foot.
Men are not superior by reason of the accident of race or color.
They are superior who have the best heart–the best brain.
Robert Ingersoll (1833-1899)

A crowd gathered at the port of Baltimore on Saturday morning, December 29, 1856, for a joyous occasion, to watch the *Mary Caroline Stevens* slip from the dock at Fell's Point on her maiden voyage with 50 excited emigrants on board. They were free Negroes, former slaves, coming from 11 states heading for a new life in the colony of Liberia on the West Coast of Africa. In addition, there were two cabin passengers: Mrs. Brown destined for Monrovia and Mr. Thomas Chester, a recent graduate of Theford Academy assigned to teach school at Cape Mount. Captain W. B. Daniels of Baltimore was the shipmaster. The *Mary Caroline Stevens* was the recently constructed noble sailing clipper of the American Colonization Society. Its next stop would be Norfolk, VA, to board an additional 167 voyagers making a full complement of 217 black and two white souls. Only one emigrant came from Maryland.



The *Mary Caroline Stevens* was the generous $37,000 gift of Colonel John Stevens (1792-1856) of Catlin's Plain near the village of Trappe in Talbot County, MD, to the national colonization society. The ship was named, as he decreed, for his only surviving daughter. Unfortunately, he died eight months before she sailed. John Stevens was a successful bay ship captain and oyster broker. It was not uncommon for white oystermen and blacks to labor side by side in the difficult harvesting work with little concern for race. Colonel John Stevens' father, John, in his 1819 will directed his son to "maintain and support aged black woman Lucy during life ..." and his grandfather, Samuel, on his 58th birthday emancipated his slaves. These experiences certainly influenced the tendering of his unselfish and significant contribution as our nation approached one of its darkest hours.

The American Colonization Society had a long and dubious history, beginning in December 1816 when it was conceived at a gathering of influential citizens including Representative Henry Clay of Kentucky, General Andrew Jackson, the Reverend Samuel Mill, Mr. Jacob Hoffman of Maryland and others. Their goal was that a

> ... society be formed for the purpose of collecting information, and assisting the formation and execution of a plan for the colonization of free people of color with their consent, in Africa or elsewhere, as may be most advisable.

The idea of the colonization movement spread rapidly and by 1817, earlier established state "auxiliary societies" became part of the national colonization society. It grew because many felt whites and blacks could never live together, and some feared that the presence of free Negroes in the community provided a dangerous influence on those being held in bondage. Other supporters of colonization believed it to be a practical method for advancing emancipation. The Maryland Legislature supported the movement and in 1826 approved an appropriation to the American Colonization Society of $1,000 annually for 10 years.

From the earliest Colonial days there had been both people of conscience and people of influence who recognized the evils of slavery and actively opposed the institution. Members of the Quaker persuasion in Maryland and elsewhere were particularly outspoken in their condemnation of the practice and some proceeded to free those they held in servitude.

The clipper *Mary Caroline Stevens* had been constructed in the Fell's Point shipyard of Abrahams and Ashcroft. *The Maryland Colonization Journal*, in December 1856, reported:

> She is a ship of 713 tons capacity, in every aspect a first class ship. Her lower hold is for cargo and her between decks exclusively for emigrants. She has a full poop deck with a cabin forty-two feet long, capable of carrying sixteen

> (*white*) passengers, furnished in a style which will compare with the finest European passenger ships. The arrangements for emigrants are made in the very best and most desirable manner, in accordance with the requirements of the late United States passenger law, and will render them as comfortable as any steerage passenger can possibly be.

The sailing ship was constructed of the best white oak, locust and cedar timbers available and its dimensions in "carpenter's measurements" were length 142-foot, breadth 32-foot, 10-inches and depth of hold 19-foot. In her emigrant compartment below deck, the height of the steerage was 7 1/2-foot from deck to deck and one area contained 12 lengths and 2 heights of berths, each 4-foot wide. Steerage was fitted with Emerson injecting and ejecting ventilators to improve comfort.

The full poop deck prepared for white passengers was 42-foot long, with eight staterooms, each 6-foot square, containing two berths, a washstand and other fixtures. Just inside the saloon cabin was "a handsome Gothic library and medicine case," a permanently fixed 18-foot walnut table and on each side attached sofas with moveable backs. Six stern windows and a large skylight opening on the poop provided light to the saloon cabin.

The stern of the *Mary Caroline Stevens* carried the American Colonization Society seal with its land partially illuminated by the rising sun, a sailing ship in the foreground and a dove bearing a scroll with the work "Liberia" written upon it. Below on the seal was "American Colonization Society A.D. 1816" and above, the motto "Lux in Tenebbis," meaning "Light in Darkness."

The *Mary Caroline Stevens* was scheduled to sail from Baltimore to Africa twice a year. The charge was $100 for cabin accommodations and $40 for steerage quarters. Free blacks contributed their earnings toward passage, while former masters often paid the fees for their emancipated slaves. Free passage was provided to those who were unable to pay. The first two voyages were very profitable, but within a few years the clipper became a liability due to lack of sufficient emigrants. During the Civil War only 169 sailed. In 1864, the *Mary Caroline Stevens* was sold for $30,000.

Mary Caroline Stevens did not attend the joyous occasion in Baltimore on the morning of December 29, 1856. She was busy at her estate, Catlin's Plain, in Talbot County. She probably never saw the ship that bore her name. Mary Caroline died unmarried, at the early age of 28, on March 1, 1863, at Catlin's Plain, and was buried there in the family burying ground beside her father. She left an estate over $43,000, and ironically, it included 10 slaves.

Restoration of a Community Cemetery

by the Reverend David Briddell

Efforts are underway to restore an abandoned cemetery in the southern part of Somerset County, a historic area known as Puncheon Landing. It is three miles north of Pocomoke City and located on the Pocomoke River near the Lankford-Sysco Food Distribution Center.

The cemetery was founded near 1850 and located on land donated by the Waters family of Puncheon Landing to St. Luke's Methodist Church and it became a cemetery for the African-American community. Stephen Waters, the oldest known ancestor of the Waters family born in 1777 and deceased in 1853, is buried there with his wife Lovey, who was born in 1784. Their graves are unmarked. (See related article by Robyn Smith on the Waters family.)

As the Puncheon Landing area changed from a busy shipping point for goods from the area to Baltimore and other ports to an agricultural community, many of its residents moved to the cities and other parts of Maryland. The St. Luke's Church was closed and the cemetery was abandoned in the 1960s and the 133-foot by 108-foot plot was covered with trees, bushes, briers and other thick growth.

In 1998 some of the descendants of Steven and Lovey Waters began a concerted effort to raise funds to clean and restore the cemetery. When the trees and growth were removed, 21 established tombstones or concrete vaults were found. The oldest tombstones were those of a Webb family who had five children die at a very early age between the years of 1875 and 1881. There were other unmarked stones scattered throughout the cemetery to indicate the place where a loved one was buried. Genealogy research by death records and the memory of older persons now living in the area has resulted in learning the names of 35 persons who are known to be buried there.

Rev. David Bridell, president of the Puncheon Landing Cemetry Association; Norman Lane, treasurer; Anne Taylor, executive committe member; and Keith Waters, executive committee member.

The cemetery has been improved by planting grass and erecting chain-posts around the borders of the cemetery. Efforts will continue to learn the names of other persons who are buried there. Family names of those now buried there are: Waters, Lane, Hayward, Webster, Henry, Knox, Harris, Smith and Tull.

Support the Puncheon Landing Cemetery Association

The Puncheon Landing Cemetery Association was recently formed to help secure the $50,000 that is needed to preserve this important and historic cemetery. Nabb Research Center Director Becky Miller and SU History Professor Clara Small are both "Friends" of the Puncheon Landing Cemetery Association. If you are interested in supporting this fund-raising effort, please contact Rev. David Briddell at 201-567-5183. A Rededication Ceremony took place at the cemetery on Saturday, August 31. Rudolph Cane, member of the Maryland House of Delegates, was the keynote speaker. Puncheon Landing Cemetery is located on Costen Road behind Sysco's on Route 13.

Disappearing Delmarva

John Wesley United Methodist Church, Deal Island

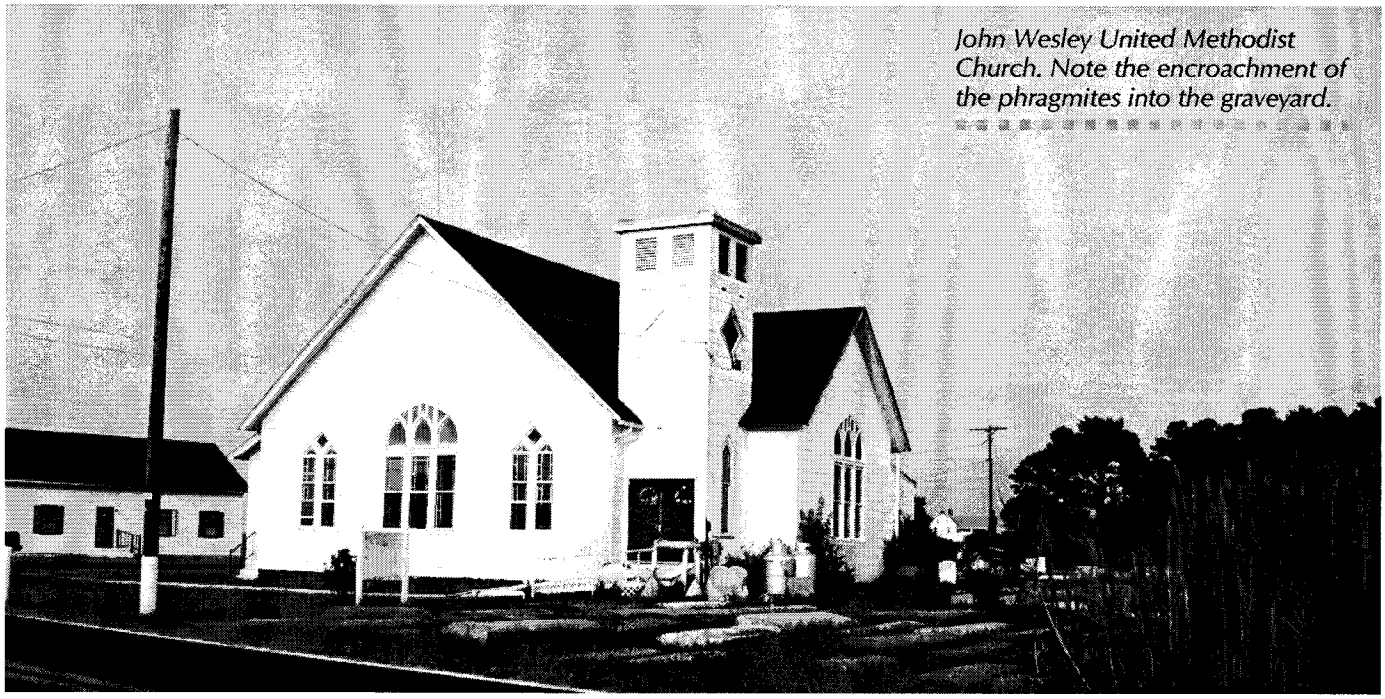
by T. Aaron Horner, GIS Technician

As one travels on Deal Island, you can notice the distinctive break between the two villages of Deal Island and Wenona by marshes and woods. In the past, homes lined the highway where land was once arable. Now all that remains are the old Severn Mister house and the John Wesley United Methodist Church. For over 150 years, this church has serviced the African-American community living on Deal Island. According to Jamie Humphrey, a parishioner of John Wesley Church, the history of this church began as the Wallace Chapel, named after David Wallace, a Methodist minister on the island prior to the arrival of Joshua Thomas. As the story goes, both whites and blacks worshipped together at this church; whites sat on the ground floor while blacks sat up in the balcony. As the black congregation grew, the whites moved out. Early church members included Arnold Wallace, Nathan Wallace, Henry Coulbourn, Hamilton Jones, Elisha Williams, Isaac Holbrook and Levi Robison. In 1866, William Price deeded land to the church "... to be used for Burial Purposes by the Colored People of Deals Island ..." Toward the end of the 19th century, the original chapel burned.

The current church, built in 1889, has a Victorian T-plan design similar to other African-American churches in the area, as well as a Gothic revival design. An elevated floor allows a clear view to the pastor for all patrons. Outside, marshes surround the south and east sides of the property with the highway on the north and west sides. Across the road stands the church's community hall. The 20th century saw many changes for the island both for blacks and whites. As the farming and water industries declined, more and more blacks (and whites) left the area for better jobs up the road. An island population, once over 1,000 people less than a hundred years ago, now stands about half of that today. With fewer new families starting, church membership at John Wesley Church started to decline. That trend carried over into other African- American churches in the charge at Chance (St. Charles Church) and Dames Quarter (Macedonia Church). With such small numbers, members of the three churches decided 10 years ago to merge the congregation and rotate services between the churches each week. On June 30, 2002, the last regular service was held at John Wesley Church.

Now, Humphreys and other church committee members are working hard to preserve the history of John Wesley Church. They want to establish a historical society. They are collecting old photos and documents pertaining to the church. There is a planned restoration effort similar to that of St. James Church by the Oriole Historical Society. However, this is only half the battle. Year by year, the marshes have slowly crept up near the graves. Humphrey's husband, Ike, has worked hard cutting the graveyard, keeping out the marshes and phragmites. Also, the church has weathered many storms. It has been subjected to several floods over the years; in some instances, the coffins popped out of their grave plots. The roof itself received needed repair this past spring. Many of the graves lack head stones or need fixing up. The church doors have not closed permanently; at least two services will be held there annually, including Homecoming, as well as other services like weddings and funerals. Through dedication and hard work, the prospects of keeping John Wesley Church going seems promising.

John Wesley Church is located halfway between the bridge and the lower end on Deal Island. To visit this church from Route 13 turn west onto Route 363 (Deal Island Road) at the stoplight in Princess Anne and travel about 17 miles (a 15-20 minute ride). The church will appear on your left.



John Wesley United Methodist Church. Note the encroachment of the phragmites into the graveyard.

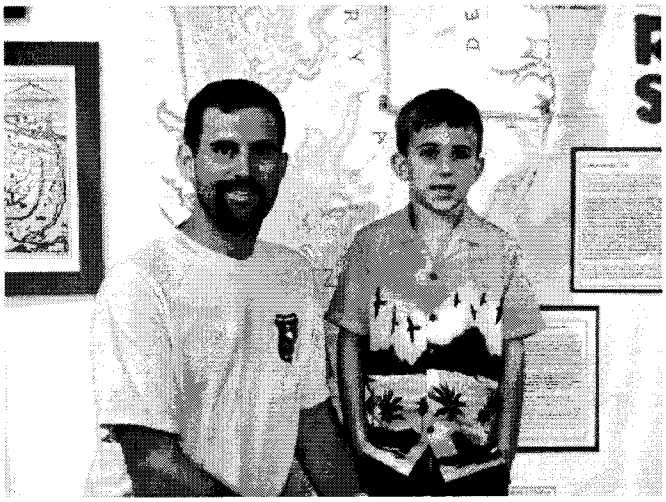
Books for Sale

Several donors of books have urged the Nabb Research Center to offer any duplicates in their donation for sale to provide funds for new purchases. Checking our duplicate book inventory, we find we already have two copies (one shelf, one reserve) of each of the following monographs:

TITLE	PRICE	QUANT.
Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia, Vols. 1-3 (1950) Charles B. Clark	($300)	1
Chesapeake Bay (1953) M. V. Brewington	($15)	2
Wicomico County Pictorial History (1994) *The Daily Times*	($20)	1
Dennises of Beverly (1992) John V. Dennis, signed by author	($20)	1
Profile of a Colonial Community on Maryland's Eastern Shore (1986) Richard W. Cooper, signed by author	($45)	3
Newspapers of Maryland's Eastern Shore (1986) Dickson J. Preston	($45)	1
Talbot County: A History (1983) Dickson J. Preston	($115)	1
Graveyard and Gravestones of Wicomico (1971) John E. Jacob, signed by author	($10)	1
Wicomico County History (1981) George H. Corddry, signed by author	($36)	2
Historic Salisbury Maryland - Bicentennial Edition (1932 reprint) Charles J. Truitt	($25)	2
Historic Salisbury Maryland - Bicentennial Edition (1932) Charles J. Truitt	($50)	1
Eastern Shore by Coach and Four (1976) Dorothy N. Harr.	($12.50)	1
Historic Salisbury Updated 1662-1982 (1982) Charles J. Truitt, signed by author	($25)	1
1856 Personal Property Tax for Northampton County, Virginia (1996) Transcribed by Doris Adler	($20)	1
1870 Census for Northampton County, Virginia (1996) Transcribed and indexed by Frances Latimer	($20)	1
Revolutionary Soldiers and Sailors from Northampton County, Virginia (1995) Compiled by Stratton Nottingham	($45)	1
Salisbury in Times Gone By (1991) Richard W. Cooper, signed by author	($45)	1
Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland (reprint 1979) Clayton Torrence	($75)	1
Portrait of Salisbury, Maryland through the 1900s (1994) Richard W. Cooper, signed by author	($45)	1
Salisbury and Wicomico County: A Pictorial History (1981) John E. Jacob Jr., signed by author	($45)	1
Index to the 1850 Census of Delaware (1977) Compiled by Virginia L. Olmsted	($40)	1
Rails Along the Chesapeake (1979) John C. Hayman, signed by author	($185)	1
Rails Along the Chesapeake (1979) John C. Hayman	($165)	1
Worcester County Maryland's Arcadia (1977) Dr. Reginal V. Truitt and Dr. Millard G. Les Callette, signed by authors	($75)	1
What's Past Is Prologue: The Wicomico County Centennial 1867-1967 (1967) Jane W. Bailey, Editor	($20)	1
City on the Sand (1991) Mary Corddry	($22)	1
Arapahoe Politics, 1851-1978 (1982) Loretta Fowler	($12)	1
Beautiful Swimmers: Watermen, Crabs and the Chesapeake Bay (1976) William W. Warner	($30)	1
It Was a Joy and a Pleasure (1979) Mary L. Nock, signed by author	($10)	1
The Engineer in War: From Guadalcanal and Peace (1996) Philip C. Pete Cooper, signed by author	($20)	1
Black Majority: Negroes in Colonial South Carolina from 1670 through the Stono Rebellion (1974) Peter H. Wood	($10)	1
18th Century Structures of the Lower Eastern Shore (1976) Wicomico County Bicentennial Commission, Janet Taylor Smith, Editor	($25)	1
Quakerism on the Eastern Shore (1970) Kenneth Carroll	($20)	1
State of Maryland Historical Atlas (1973) State of Maryland, Department of Economic Community and Planning	($15)	1
Maryland Folklore and Folklife (1970) George G. Carey	($12)	1
Lower Eastern Shore Patriot - Bicentennial Edition (1976) The Bicentennial Committee of Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester	($20)	2

The Nabb Research Center is pleased to offer these monographs at the above-referenced prices to our members only. The caveat is that you have to get them while we've got them so don't ponder too long. The books will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis, with no member discount on this rare offer. E-mail and telephone reserves will be accepted. If the check is not received within seven business days of the reserve, the book will be sold to the next in line. Telephone 410-543-6312 or e-mail rcdhac@salisbury.edu with your reservation.

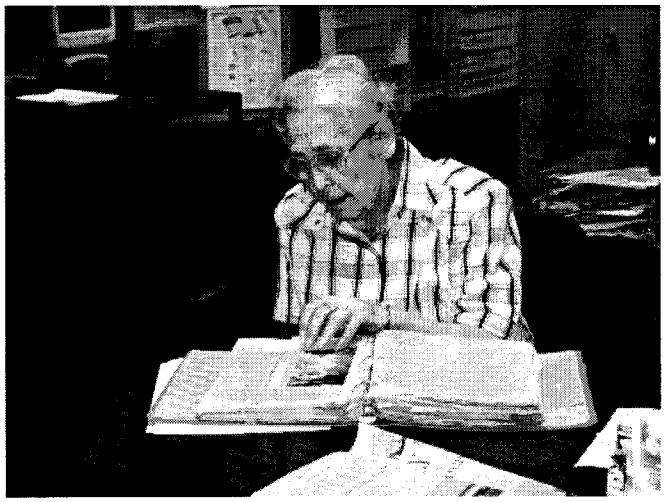
People People People People People



Danny Phillips and his son, Josh, visited the Nabb Research Center in July to research their Evans ancestors. Josh, a member of Cub Scout Pack 137 in Federalsburg, MD, was working on his Heritage Badge.

Richard Cooper holds the hand-drawn plat map that he created in the 1950s of the Tony Tank subdivision in Salisbury. Shad Edwards is behind Cooper holding a Richard Patten compass from c. 1850.

Kathryn Hoehne of Palm Harbor, FL, recently spent two weeks at the Nabb Center working on her family history. Director Becky Miller looks on as Mrs. Hoehne retrieved data on several of their mutual ancestors.



Isabelle Leach of Pocomoke City recently donated a number of newspaper clippings and photos to the Center. Mrs. Leach was a free-lance writer who regularly contributed to Salisbury's newspaper The Daily Times.

SU history student, Jeffrey McCool, donated tobacco plants to the Nabb Research Center. Mr. McCool purchased the plants from a farmer near Intercourse, PA. The "sotweed" will help SU students visualize 17th-century currency when they do their historical exercises this fall.

Nabb Research Center Welcomes New Anthropology Professor

Dr. Elizabeth Ragan has been named the new assistant professor for anthropology at Salisbury University. A graduate of Wicomico High School, she began studying archaeology as soon as she got her diploma. While pursuing a B.A. in anthropology from the University of Maryland College Park, she took part in excavations at Pemberton Hall and other sites on the Lower Eastern Shore. After working on excavations at Mount Clare and the Benjamin Bannaker site near Baltimore, and the first site database for what was then the Maryland Geological Survey's Archaeological Division, Ragan shifted her attention to European archaeology. She received a Master of Philosophy in Celtic archaeology from the University of Glasgow, Scotland; excavated at the site of Whithorn in Galloway; and later carried out research into maritime trade and coastal archaeology on the West Highland coast for her Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Pennsylvania. Having returned to the Eastern Shore, she is interested in applying these maritime perspectives to archaeology on Delmarva.

This summer, Ragan spearheaded an archaeological dig at the historic site of Thornton plantation (see related article). As part of the Nabb Research Center's recent expansion, Ragan will be creating an archaeology laboratory within the Center. The archaeological component to the Nabb Research Center fulfills a long-standing goal for student involvement in archaeology at the Center. While the actual lab area is small, now that we have regained the conference room, Ragan will have the use of that room for her students, as well.

Welcome Our New Dean of Libraries

Dr. Alice Harrison Bahr, former director of the library at Spring Hill College in Mobile, AL, is the new dean of libraries and instructional services at Salisbury University. Bahr started in her new position on July 15, 2002. The dean is responsible for supporting the library collection and disseminating academic information on campus, as well as managing Blackwell Library, the Nabb Research Center and the Teaching-Learning Network/Instructional Resources Office.

"The most important quality a library dean offers to an institution is vision," said Bahr. "Vision, however, needs to be informed by more than technical possibilities and emulating others' successes. Its firmest base is the working experience of others, the institution's goals, student and faculty needs, and the practical limitations of available dollars. That notwithstanding," she added, "it also depends on dreaming, imagining a better future."

Bahr had been the library director at Spring Hill for 13 years. From 1990-99 Bahr was editor-in-chief of *College & Undergraduate Libraries*, a commercial, peer-reviewed professional journal published by The Haworth Press, Inc. She has been chair of the Research for College Librarianship Committee, American Library Association, Association of College and Research Libraries, and currently serves as secretary of the College Libraries Section. Prior to joining Spring Hill, Bahr was project librarian at The Libraries at Cedar Crest and Muhlenberg Colleges in Allentown, PA. Bahr earned her Ph.D. and M.A. in English literature from Lehigh University, her M.L.S. from Drexel University and her B.A. from Temple University.

Wilmer O. Lankford III

by Patricia Taylor, Volunteer

Wilmer O. Lankford III, member, donor and friend to the Nabb Research Center, passed away on March 2, 2002, at his home in Princess Anne. Born in Princess Anne in 1920, Mr. Lankford lived in Oregon for a short time before returning to the Eastern Shore in 1929 where he graduated from Milford High School in 1938. Lankford attended the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and after graduation in 1942, he was commissioned into the U.S. Navy and was deployed to the South Pacific on the *U.S.S. Wright*. Following his naval services, he worked with L.D. Caulk Company in Milford, DE, as export manager and treasurer. In the 1970s, he was assistant comptroller for the Pennsylvania Department of Health and Welfare until his retirement in 1983. Upon retiring to the Eastern Shore he earned an M.A. in history from SU. He served as an elder and treasurer/endowment officer for Manokin Presbyterian Church in Princess Anne.

Mr. Lankford published genealogical reference books concerning 17th- and 18th-century records of Somerset County, including the *They Lived in Somerset County, Maryland* series. These volumes are compilations of Somerset County record compiled from vital records, parish records, judicial proceedings, legislative biographies, probate records and the Archives of Maryland. The copyrights for these books were donated to the Nabb Center and are an ongoing source of revenue. Volume IV of the *They Lived in Somerset County, Maryland*, which covers material from 1751-1775, has just been published and is now available for order or purchase from the Nabb Center.

Mr. Lankford also donated many items to the Nabb Center's archives. Session Minutes from the Dalry Parish Church in Ayrshire, Scotland, dating from 1730 to 1736 and Session Minutes from Manokin Presbyterian Church in Princess Anne dating from 1747 to 1881 are among the highlights in the Lankford Collection. This collection also includes copies of tax lists, tobacco lists, Evidence of Title for a Slave records, Application for Compensation for Service of Slave documents, Deed of Manumission and Release of Service records, Oath of Allegiance (1864) documents and the original diary of Ida Marshall Lankford for the year 1894 and its transcription.

The staff of the Nabb Center is grateful for "Bill's" many contributions, which will aid future students and visitors conducting research at the Center. He is greatly missed.

In July, Nabb Director Becky Miller hosted a tour of the Nabb Research Center for the members of the Fruitland Community Center, Inc. The Fruitland Community Center is located in the Old Morris Street School (c. 1912). African-American children attended this historic school until 1957 when Wicomico County's schools were desegregated. Today, the Fruitland Community Center serves local children with several different enrichment programs that teach academics, conflict resolution, self-esteem and respect for authority. Tutorial services are available during the school year for children grades 1-11. There is an after-school program for grades 4-8, and in the summer there is a food program that serves breakfast and lunch to disadvantaged children. For more information on these programs, please contact Founding Director Mary Gladys Jones.

Getting Down and Dirty With American Origins

by Dr. Elizabeth Ragan

The Nabb Research Center is known for its efforts to preserve the documents and folklore of Delmarva, but efforts are underway to expand its scope with another important angle on the past: archaeology. This summer Salisbury University, with the aid of a $35,000 Maryland Historical Trust grant to the Somerset County Historical Trust, conducted an archaeological field school on land patented by William Thorne, one of Somerset County's founding magnates and its first militia captain. The location of Thornton has long been known from documentary sources, yet it was a large plantation and the archaeological site, which lies in an agricultural field beside the Manokin River, was only discovered in 1996 by Darrin Lowery, a prehistoric archaeologist. While there is a prehistoric element to the site, most of the artifacts recovered during his survey made it clear that this was a promising and potentially important late 17th-century site. Historical archaeologists from outside the area, however, were unwilling to come so far to investigate a site that may have been all but destroyed by years of plowing.

Meanwhile, there have been efforts afoot this last year to reestablish a local center for archaeological research. Dr. Elizabeth Ragan, assistant professor of anthropology at Salisbury University and a graduate of Wicomico High School, began her archaeological career digging at Pemberton Hall in Wicomico County and various sites in Somerset County with the Lower Shore Regional Archaeology Center in the early 1980s. She was dismayed to discover on her return to the area that the Archaeology Center–based at then Salisbury State College and only the second such regional research center in the state–had become inactive during the later 1980s, leaving our area without an institutional base for research and archaeological resource management–a grim situation in these days of rapidly expanding development. Thornton appeared to be an ideal location for Salisbury University's first field school in 12 years: enough artifacts to encourage the students while they learned the strenuous skills of survey and excavation, supporting historical documentation to aid in interpretation, and landowners with a deep interest in the area's heritage.

Given the shortage of skilled personnel and support facilities, it would have been foolhardy to attempt too ambitious a project, and Thornton was a good choice in this respect as well. The primary goals of the project were to clearly define the limits of the archaeological site, the nature of the archaeological evidence there, and whether or not any of that evidence survived undisturbed beneath the 8- to 12-inch-deep plow zone. These were questions that could be answered in the five short weeks of the summer session, with a small number of students. As it turned out, however, there were more than enough students–as many as Ragan and Dr. Melanie Perreault, Salisbury University's Colonial historian and a veteran of excavations at Jamestown and Williamsburg, could supervise unaided, as many from history as from anthropology.

Fieldwork began just after Memorial Day with a surface survey, where the students walked over the site at set intervals, recording and collecting all their finds within the context of a 10-foot grid laid out across the field. The results of this intensive survey showed the density of artifacts, bits of brick and oyster shell across the site. These scatters were fairly uniform across a wide area; nearly every square had something, even if it was only a piece of brick. This was not very helpful in pointing out where the best areas for excavation would be. Fortunately, a magnetometer survey had been carried out the week before by experts on loan from the Lost Cities of Anne Arundel project. The magnetometer is a tool for remote sensing, a way of finding out what might be in the ground before you start to dig. It detects magnetic anomalies in the soil: large iron objects, burnt areas and hearths, and sometimes even pits and foundations. Besides finding the iron pipe used by Darrin Lowery as a reference point six years before with great accuracy, this survey located four large, significant-looking anomalies toward the middle of the artifact scatter.

The first excavation units–a 5-foot by 5-foot square to each pair of students–were placed on top of these anomalies, and as soon as they began shoveling the plowzone into the screens, the real riches of the site began to appear. The artifacts that were recovered were broken and battered, by the plow or by use, but the pieces of pottery and glass and iron speak eloquently of the high social status and wealth of William Thorne (who died childless ca. 1669) and also of David Brown, the Scottish merchant who married Thorne's widow Winifred in 1672, gaining Thornton as well. Fragments of German stoneware tankards and jugs decorated in blue and purple, known as Rhenish or Westerwald wares, were quite common, as were pieces of plainer brown-glazed stonewares, probably made in England. There were also pieces of fine delftware and Chinese export porcelain, sadly mauled bits of wine goblet, and the

brass tacks that held upholstery on furniture. Tobacco pipe fragments, iron nails, glazed brick and tile, the teeth of pigs and cattle, and oysters shells galore—all of these tell the tale of the daily life of some of Somerset's first settlers.

Nearly a dozen units were excavated, and the majority of them uncovered further deposits below the disturbed plow zone, deposits we barely had time to sample. One feature uncovered may be the trench for a palisade between the rest of the site and the river; if so, then Thorne seems to have felt a need to defend his home. But from whom? Indians or the Virginians led by Scarburgh, whom Torrence dwells on at such length when discussing the early boundary disputes between Maryland and Virginia? A large area at the center of the site contained substantial amounts of animal bone, including pig jaws and cattle ribs: is this the tangible remains of the many head of cattle and nearly six tons of pork Brown owned at his death, their meat one of the products he traded to the West Indies to provision the slaves who worked on the sugar plantations?

The students were not pleased to have to stop digging just as things began to get really interesting, although the first hot and humid weather toward the end of June helped persuade them. One history major had started researching Thorne and Brown at the Nabb Center on his own over the weekends (getting ahead of his professors in a couple of places!), and others are looking forward to cleaning and studying the artifacts in the lab this fall. With the expansion of the Nabb Center this August, a small area has been set aside for an archaeology lab, conveniently close to the archaeological reports and historical documents needed to properly analyze this summer's finds.

These analyses will take the better part of a year—it is not commonly known that over 75 percent of archaeological research happens after the fieldwork is done—and provide deeper insights into the settlement of the Lower Shore. Very few late 17th-century sites are known from the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and Thornton has shown us that the same fine ceramics and glass that were used at Saint Mary's City, Jamestown and Williamsburg reached our side of the Bay. Since only a small portion of the site could be investigated this season, efforts will be made to obtain the funding needed to go back and examine the site in more detail, with a longer field season and a mix of professional and student excavators.

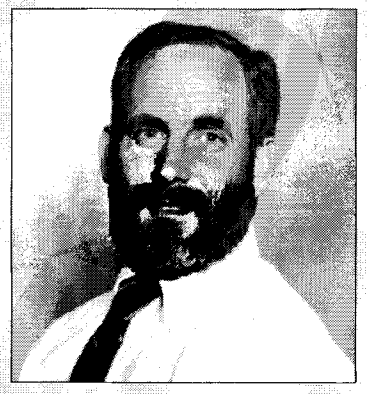
While we now have the basic archaeological equipment needed to carry out small projects—and trained students for a labor force—some of the equipment is rather antiquated, particularly the surveyor's transit, one of the few pieces of equipment remaining from the Lower Shore Regional Archaeology Center days. Newer laser-sited and digital models locate artifacts and features with far greater precision, and the data can be downloaded into sophisticated computer programs that would aid analysis and mapping. A more spacious lab and storage facilities will be needed as well, especially if the program is to serve the archaeological needs of the whole Lower Shore. Our area has a rich and underappreciated past buried beneath our feet, prehistoric as well as historic, vulnerable to time, tide and our own uses of the land. Hopefully this summer's findings are only a first taste of more exciting archaeological discoveries to come!

See related article about Dr. Ragan on page 21.

'The Rebel's Heel Is on Thy Shore— The Maryland Campaign of 1862'

On Thursday, October 3, Maryland Humanities Council Speakers Bureau Member Thomas G. Clemens will present the lecture, "The Rebel's Heel Is on Thy Shore—The Maryland Campaign of 1862." This event, presented by the Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture at Salisbury University, will be held in the Wicomico Room of the Guerrieri University Center at 1 p.m. Sign language interpretation available upon request.

Clemens will discuss the political and military dilemmas facing the Union and Confederate governments in the summer of 1862 and the powerful effects of the Maryland campaign on the direction of the Civil War. He focuses on the issues that drove the campaign: Lee's belief that a success in Maryland could win recognition and independence for his nation; the impact on foreign affairs and the Confederacy's bid for international recognition; the horrific number of casualties on both sides; the devastation of the local civilian population; and the enabling of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.



Using maps to trace the routes of the opposing armies, Clemens weaves an engaging story, explaining both actions and their consequences in this important campaign. This lecture, sponsored by the Maryland Humanities Council, is free and open to the public.

Thomas Clemens is a professor of history at Hagerstown Community College. A founding member and the president of Save Historic Antietam Foundation, Clemens received his B.A. and M.A. in history from Salisbury University. He is currently working on a doctoral degree at George Mason University.

Honoring Delmarva's Heroes

Do you have a family member who served active military duty in any 20th-21st century conflict? If so, would you be willing to share a photo of your loved one? The Nabb Research Center is in the process of assembling a display highlighting the contributions of Delmarvans in preserving our nation's freedom. Part of the display will include a collage of photographs of Eastern Shore men and women who served our nation in times of armed conflict. If you have a war-era photograph, please call the Center to make arrangements to have the photo scanned for inclusion in the collage. All original photographs will be returned after we scan the images on-site. In order for your photo to be included in the collage, you must be able to identify the pictured individual. Branch of service, rank and perhaps a favorite remembrance can also be included as part of the collage. If you are interested in participating in this historic display, please contact the project coordinators Iris Powell or Jill Jeffery at 410-546-6312.

Pemberton Colonial Fair and Heritage Festival

by Bill Wilson

This year will mark the 16th year of what is becoming an enjoyable and still growing Eastern Shore tradition celebrating the Pemberton Colonial Fair which was first held in 1987. The event takes place at the Pemberton Historical Park in Salisbury, MD. All proceeds from the event benefit the Pemberton Historical Park, the Pemberton Hall Foundation and the Wicomico Historical Society Heritage Center and are used to restore the Pemberton Hall Plantation.

Last year and again this year another venue component was added to include a Heritage Festival extending the celebration to other periods. This year the theme is 1760 and 1860. Included in this year's fair will be period re-enactors including first-person portrayals, a fencing school, 18th century militia and surveyor, a sword swallower, a tight rope walker, and period storytellers. You are invited to join in music and period dance in 18th century Pemberton Hall's Great Room and learn from period craftsmen and demonstrators. The Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture will present an exhibit of 18th century maps in the hall as well. The Wicomico Heritage Center will present a new exhibit entitled "Salisbury in Times Past" in collaboration with the Nabb Research Center.

As part of the Heritage Fair there will be Civil War re-enactors, wine tasting, hot air balloon rides, a fishing tournament, kids games and various other activities. In addition, there will be excellent Eastern Shore fare including oyster sandwiches, chicken, fresh cider, baked goods, Maryland beaten biscuits and much more.

The date of the Pemberton Colonial Fair and Heritage Festival is Saturday, September 28, as always the last Saturday in September, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Come join us and enjoy our Eastern Shore traditions while celebrating our Shore's Heritage.

Bill Wilson is the co-chair of the Pemberton Hall Foundation, Inc. He is a retired Wicomico County teacher who is active in several heritage-based organizations.

Colonial Fairs

The Pemberton Colonial Fair seeks to replicate the flavor and feel of an 18th century Chesapeake Bay Region market fair. Research indicates that these gatherings were held throughout the Chesapeake Region at the larger towns usually throughout the fall months. These fairs were gathering places for conducting business, live stock trading, sale of many types of wares and catching up on news. Entertainment was provided through horse races, games of chance, militia demonstrations, food and strong drink. We know that court sessions were also events occasioned by such activities, including public punishments, which were well attended. It was often the only time that large groups of citizens gathered for recreation and pleasure.

Salisbury University
Nabb Research Center
for Delmarva History and Culture

NOTICE

The Nabb Center will be closed Saturday, September 28, to work the Pemberton Fair.

The Bay Bridge Turns 50

by Jill Jeffery, Research Coordinator

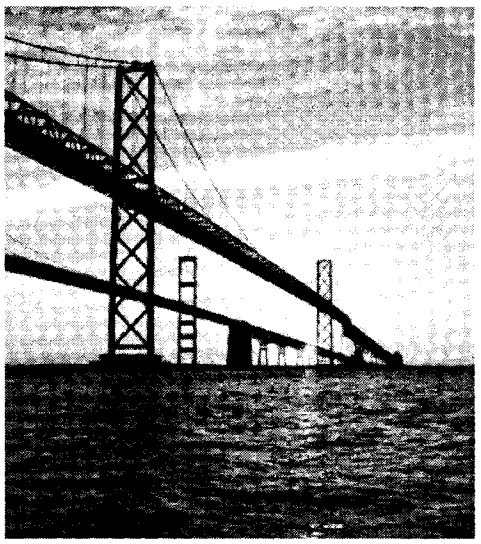


Photo courtesy of Sam Gunby, Owner of Scenic Views Photography. (www.scenicviews.com)

The William Preston Lane Jr. Memorial Bridge, known as the "Bay Bridge" to most Delmarvans, is celebrating its 50th year this summer. The Bay Bridge carries thousands of travelers across the waters of the Chesapeake Bay each day. When the original span opened on July 30, 1952, no one could have predicted how much the Eastern Shore would grow and change in the next half century due in large part to this physical connection between Maryland's Eastern and Western Shores.

Before the Bay Bridge opened, travelers had to either journey around the head of the Bay or use the riverboat ferries that crossed the water. Even with the proliferation of motorcars, traveling to the Western Shore was an arduous daylong process. The first proposal to build the east-west span has been dated to 1907 when Peter C. Campbell, a Baltimore businessman and state senator, was concerned that more and more of the Eastern Shore's trade was going to Wilmington and Philadelphia instead of Baltimore. The following year, a private interest group paid for a feasibility study of a bridge between Bay Shore and Tolchester. Technological limitations probably prevented the bridge from being built in this era. The bridge idea was circulated again in 1919 and 1927, but the stock market crash of 1929 prevented any further consideration of such an ambitious project.

By 1935, public demand for a bridge (on the Western Shore) had become so great that the Maryland Legislature created the Chesapeake Bay Authority. This public commission was tasked with constructing a Miller Island to Tolchester crossing funded by the revenue bond financing method. The Authority was abolished in 1941 because in 1937 then Governor Nice formulated a comprehensive state plan for the construction of roads and bridges under the authority of the State Roads Commission. The State Roads Commission determined that the span should be built at its current Sandy Point-Kent Island site. Before any action could be taken, however, World War II intervened and the idea was tabled until 1947.

The necessity of an expedient crossing was firmly established by the 1940s, and in 1947 the General Assembly passed a comprehensive Act for the bridge, which included alternative financing methods for the project. Construction began in November 1949, and the first permanent piles were driven into the sandy bottom in 1950. The first superstructure section–300-feet long–was built on barges and floated into place in 1951. In May 1952, the final superstructure element was lifted into place and the Chesapeake Bay was finally bridged. At one time, the bridge was the largest continuous entirely-over-water steel structure in the world, and it remains one of the world's largest bridges. The original cost of the span was $45 million, an enormous sum of money in 1952. Today, it costs more than that just to paint the bridge.

During the 50 years it took to actually build the bridge, most Eastern Shore residents were opposed to the idea. A 1930 headline in Easton's *Star-Democrat* newspaper read "Bay Bridge Is a Big Disadvantage to Shore." Most residents on the Shore felt that the bridge would hurt local businesses. A lot of money had been invested in ferries, such as the Claiborne-Annapolis Ferry, and local residents believed that these businesses were vital to the local economy. Perhaps these Eastern Shore men and women also felt that the bridge would bring an end to their rural way of life, and that the traffic and congestion of the "Mainland" would migrate eastward. Whatever one's view of the bridge, it is clear that the opening of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge ended centuries of isolation in which Delmarvans had developed their own culture and sense of geographic identity.

The building of the bridge hastened the demise of passenger railroad service on the Shore and it ended ferry service. It led to the build-up of the local resorts, especially Ocean City. With the improved travel system, more industrial interests were able to locate on the Eastern Shore taking residents from the farm and putting them in the factory. As the *Salisbury Times* reported on July 30, 1952, "The bridge will accelerate a mixing of populations of the Maryland mainland and the peninsula, which is shared by the residents of three states–Delaware, Maryland and Virginia." Indeed, more and more people move to the Eastern Shore each year, many to the retirement communities that are developing in Worcester County and lower Sussex County.

Today, most Eastern Shore residents would agree that the Chesapeake Bay Bridge is good and bad. While it has brought much-needed jobs and dollars to the Shore, it has also brought development and congestion to the area. For better or worse, the William Preston Lane Jr. Memorial Bridge has become as much a part of Delmarva's culture as oyster, skipjacks and chickens. After all, it is "the" Bay Bridge.

Bay Bridge Facts

Shore-to-shore length is 4.3 miles

Original two-lane span opened in 1952

Parallel three-lane structure opened in 1973

Horizontal clearance 1,500 feet

Vertical clearance 186 feet

In 2001, 23.9 million vehicle crossings

Over 55,000 vehicles cross per day

In 2001, $30.3 million collected in tolls

Nabb Research Center Goes Worldwide

Author's Note: We decided to write this story on the Bay Bridge several months ago when we found the "anti-bridge" article in the Easton Star-Democrat. In July, Director Becky Miller we received a call from John Biemer, an Associated Press reporter, who was researching information for an AP article on the Bay Bridge. We sent Biemer all of our research on the bridge, which included a number of period newspaper articles. Biemer conducted a telephone interview with Nabb Research Center Board Member and SU History Professor G. Ray Thompson, who was quoted in the article. The Associated Press is the oldest and largest news organization in the world. The AP serves over a billion people each day supplying a steady stream of news information to newspaper, radio and television subscribers.

History Mystery–Solved

by Doris Gelbman

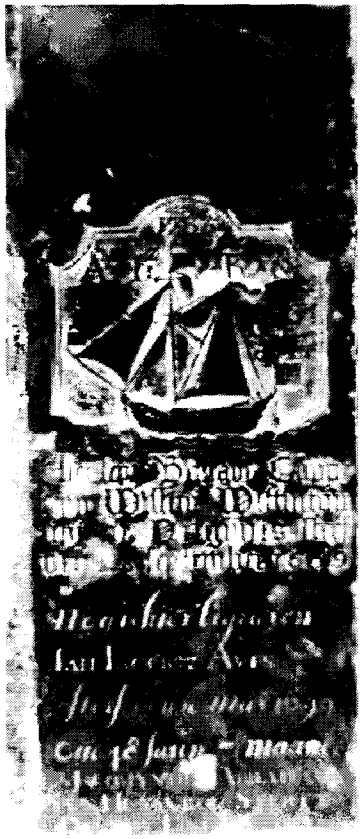
Virtually every day, here at the Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture, we receive at least a handful of requests for assistance with research. Genealogists, looking for that last link that has them stumped, others looking for a publication long out of print, historians needing someone to look up a source for them. We are of course, happy to help.*

Recently, however, in perusing the morning mail (e-mail in this case), I opened an inquiry more unusual than any I'd received before. This one had come all the way from Holland to begin with. Mr. Aart Vermeulen wrote us that for 25 years, he has been doing research on his own family and some years ago, in the course of his travels, he had come across the site of an old church which had recently been torn down. Under the church, in the floor, were a number of graves. To his puzzlement, one of the gravestones read:

Cappeteijn Willem Wittinton uyt de Verginjes, overleden 28 september 1659, begraven 2 oktober 1659

Fortunately, since no one at the Nabb Center happeans to understand Dutch, Mr. Vermuelen translated for us:

Captain Willem Wittinton from Virginia, died September 28, 1659, buried October 2, 1659.



Gravestone of William Whittington, in Craft Holland

Intrigued as to why an American in that distant time would have voyaged to, and died, in Holland, Mr. Vermeulen, embarked upon a search for his mysterious Capt. Wittinton from Virginia. Finally, coming across some alternative spellings, Mr. Vermeulen, using the spelling "Whittington," among other genealogical Web sites around the world, came across our Web site.

Now here is coincidence for you. One year ago, on assignment from an upper-level history course at SU, I myself had done some extensive research on a Capt. William Whittington. Needless to say, my interest was immediately piqued. After some conversation with Becky Miller, director of the Center, we soon realized that Vermuelen's Capt. Whittington, was very likely the father of my Capt. Whittington, and we had the records of the family right here at the Nabb Center. In no time at all, we had uncovered the nearly 400-year-old copy of Capt. Whittington's will. The will is dated 4 May, 1659–only five months prior to the date of death on the gravestone in Holland.

Anyone that has ever looked at such documents (especially on microfilm) can appreciate just how difficult they are to decipher, but to our delight and surprise, we were able to make out just enough of it to read:

... I, Capt. Wm Whittington of ye County of Northampton in Virginia and bound by God's divine will, to take a voyage very shortly for Holland...

A historical "smoking gun" proving that our Capt. Whittington was indeed one and the same as Mr. Vermeulen's Capt. Wittinton! For historians, it doesn't get much better than this!

Forwarding this news to Mr. Vermeulen in Holland, he then sent us the results of some of some of his earlier research. He knew for example, that the ship Whittington had sailed on had in fact never made it to Holland! According to another genealogical Web site he had found, the ship and passenger information listing noted the following:

June 6, 1659 The White Angel departed "the Capes" of Virginia for Amsterdam, Netherland. The White Angel was captured enroute to Amsterdam by a St. Sebastian man-of-war.

Curious, we first tried to determine where the "San Sebastian man-o-war" might have come from. It appears that the San Sebastian they note is a port city in the Canary Islands (off the coast of Africa, then as now, a protectorate of Spain). This made sense to us in the context of shipping patterns of that period. *White Angel* would indeed have had to sail quite close to the Canary Islands to reach Holland. But if the *White Angel* never made it to Holland, how then did Whittington arrive there at all? The plot thickened!

Unclear as to the source of this material, but hot on the trail now as we had the name of this ship, we soon uncovered that after the attack, another passenger had also survived, Thomas Pollard, and he in turn had given a deposition detailing the incident. Mr. Pollard and his deposition turned out to be a tricky bit to track down. But finally despairing of finding the original source, and on a whim, I plugged his name into an Internet search engine and lo' and behold, up came a private individual's Web page, who had been doing genealogical research, and there was Thomas Pollard, mentioned as one of her ancestors. More importantly, it pointed me toward the book where I found the abstracts of his depositions that had been right here at the Nabb Center the whole time. In Peter Coldham's *English Adventurers and Emigrants, 1609-1660: Abstracts of Examinations in the High Court of Admirality with Reference to Colonial America*, there are two entries that solved more pieces of our puzzle.

First, with regard to how Whittington ultimately arrived in Holland, Pollard testified that, "her cargo [which would have included passengers] was transferred to the *Crown and Sceptre* of Amsterdam, Mr. Jacob Hendricks Benning by order of Mr. Adrian Tenninck, to be taken to Amsterdam. "

Still, we were all curious as to why Whittington had ever sailed to Amsterdam to begin with–a voyage across the Atlantic at that time still being a highly risky proposition. For everything we knew of the Whittingtons, they were planters and "tillers of the land" (as well as holding offices in government and militia)–not traders! But to our surprise and delight, the records of the Admiralty had the answer for that question, too. On the very next page of Coldham's book is an abstract dated 1 September, 1659 (less than a month before Whittington's death is noted on the gravestone) recording the bill of sale of a ship–*Christina Regina* (later renamed *The Shepperd* and

registered in Northampton Virginia). Who was it sold to? Lt. Col. William Kendal, John Micheel of Virginia and–William Whittington! Like a latter day car dealer, our Capt. Whittington had sailed to Holland to take delivery of a ship he had purchased in partnership with other Virginians.

Like all good "History Mysteries" this one uncovers more questions than are answered. There remain the questions of how Capt. Whittington died. Was he wounded in the attack? And who went to the trouble and expense to bury Capt. Whittington in Holland and put up the gravestone? Of interest also is that if Whittington died shortly after the transaction, what happened to his share of the ship?

On our end, the inventory and accounts of the Whittington estate may uncover more clues as to the disposition of *The Shepperd*. And we would still like to get our hands on the original deposition and Admiralty records (some of which we believe may have been cross-filed in the Northampton County Judicial Records) to see what else Thomas Pollard may have had to say about events on the *White Angel* and subsequently. (Was anyone killed or wounded?)

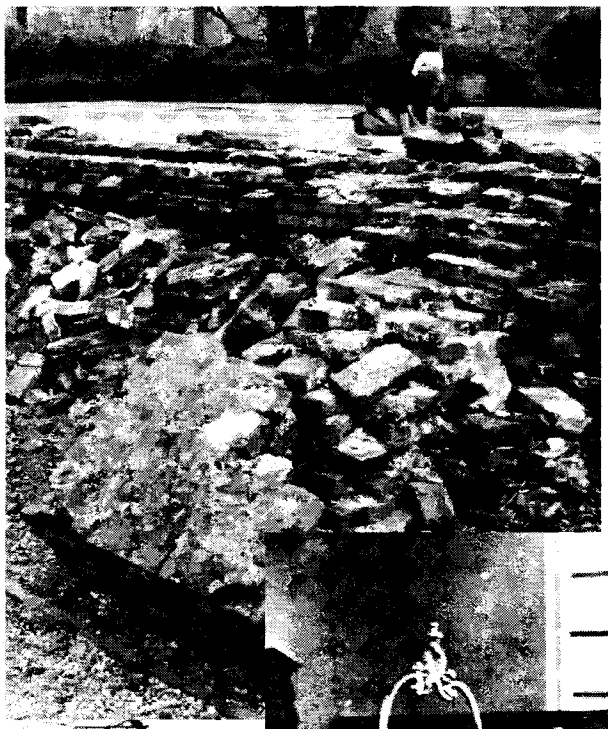
To our delight, Vermeulen is still on the case on the other side of the Atlantic. In Holland, the church maintained council minutes dating back to 1644. Also, the Dutch East India Trading Company has an archive that might uncover even more clues as to how he died and who buried him.

This story, like many historical adventures, only continues, it never ends. We are exceedingly grateful to Vermeulen for bringing this mystery to our attention and all his help in putting together the pieces we have to date. Nothing excites historians more than a good mystery! Except maybe solving one ...

*The Nabb Center normally charges a very modest fee for research staff time and photocopies for requests from individuals who are unable to visit the Center. Patrons are invited to conduct their own research for a daily research fee of $5. Annual memberships are also available.

Got a "History Mystery" that you'd like to share?
Need help with one?
Contact the Edward H. Nabb Center for Delmarva History and Culture:
By e-mail: rcdhac@salisbury.edu
Or by U.S. Post: 1101 Camden Avenue, Salisbury, MD 21801

Photos Courtesy of Mr. Aart J. Vermeulen



Remains of the church where Whittington's grave is found. Vermeulen can be seen at the top of the photo, kneeling on the floor made of gravestones.

Town Hall, Craft, Holland. This structure, built in 1613, looks today much as it would have when William Whittington visited in 1659.

Binnenzide Kerk (Church) interior as it was before it was torn down revealing Whittington's grave in the floor.

New Accessions

BOOKS

Assorted magazines and newsletters

The 1787 Census of Virginia, Henrico County and Richmond City, Netti Schreiner-Yantis and Florene Speakman Love

The 1787 Census of Virginia, Northampton County, Netti Schreiner-Yantis and Florene Speakman Love

1810 Census Accomack County, Transcribed by Owen A. Crickard

1856 Personal Property Tax for Northampton County, Virginia, Transcribed by Doris Adler

1860 Census for Northampton County, Virginia, Transcribed and indexed by Frances Bibbins Latimer

1870 Census for Northampton County, Virginia, Transcribed by Frances Bibbins Latimer and edited by Doris Adler

The Almanac of American History, Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr.

Alexander Draper: 1630-1691, Early Settler of Delmarva and His Descendants, Joana S. Donovan

American Folk Art from the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection, Colonial Williamsburg, Inc.

American Slavery: 1619-1877, Peter Kolchin

Ancestry's Redbook: American State, County, Town Sources, Edited by Alice Eichholz

Annals of Bath County, Virginia, Oren F. Morton

Annals of Phoenixville and It's Vicinity: From the Settlement to the Year 1871, Samuel Whitaker Pennypacker, Esq.

Antiques at Williamsburg, Editors of *Antiques Magazine*

Apprentices of Virginia 1623-1800, Harold B. Gill Sr.

Archeological Report Number 274: Phase 1 Intensive Archeological Survey of the Proposed Wetland Mitigation Area, Kinder Property, Sudley Road Near MD 486, West River, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, Maryland State Highway Administration, Project Planning Division, Environmental Planning Section, *Badger–Tankardby,* Austin Kilham and Fannie Clark

Baptisms and Burials From the Records of Christ Church, Philadelphia, 1709-1760, Compiled by Charles R. Hildeburn

Beautiful Swimmers: Watermen, Crabs and the Chesapeake Bay, William W. Warner

Bell Family Records, J. Montgomery Seaver, 1929

The Bells in U.S.A. and Allied Families 1650-1977, Getha Gina Bell

Births, Deaths and Marriages of the Nottingham Quakers 1680-1889, Alice L. Beard

The Bounty of the Chesapeake: Fishing in Colonial Virginia, James Wharton

The British Plantations Association Oath Rolls, 1696, Edited by Wallace Gandy

A Calendar of the Early History of Virginia's Eastern Shore, Susie M. Ames

Census Returns 1841-1881 on Microfilm: A Directory to Local Holdings, Fourth Edition, Compiled by J.S.W.Gibson

Check Points On How To Buy Oriental Rugs, Charles W. Jacobsen

Chesapeake Country, Lucien Niemeyer and Eugene L. Meyer

Christmas in Williamsburg, Taylor Biggs Lewis, Jr. and Joanne B. Young

The Church of Saint Peter in the Great Valley 1700-1940: The Story of a Colonial Country Parish in Pennsylvania, Harold Donaldson Eberlein and Cortlandt Van Dyke Hubbard

Clearing New Ground: The Life of John G. Townsend Jr., Richard B. Carter

A Collection of Upwards of Thirty Thousand Names of Immigrants in Pennsylvania of German, Swiss, Dutch, French and Other Immigrants in Pennsylvania From 1727 To 1776, Prof. I. Daniel Rupp

Colonial Clergy of Maryland, Delaware and Georgia, Frederick Lewis Weis, Th.D.

Colonial Settlers and English Adventurers, Noel Currier-Briggs

Colonial Williamsburg: Its Buildings and Gardens, A. Lawrence Kocher and Howard Dearstyne

Colonial Williamsburg Historic Trades Volume I, The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

County Court Notebook Vol. I-X and Ancestral Proofs and Probabilities, Numbers 1-4, Edited by Milnor Ljungstedt

Cross and Gown, Colonial Williamsburg

The Decedents of Robert Graham of Kent County, Delaware, Jerri Burkett

Dorchester County Debt Book: 1734-1759, Abstracted by Leslie and Neil Keddie

Dorchester County Land Office Additional Rent Rolls: 1737-1745, 1745-1755 and *1755-1761,* Abstracted by Leslie and Neil Keddie

Dorchester County Land Office Additional Rent Rolls: 1763 and Caroline County,

Maryland Patents, 1782-178, Abstracted by Neil and Leslie Keddie

Dorchester County, Maryland Wills, 1853-September 1854; September 1854-February 1857; February 1857-October 1857; November 1861-1868, Abstracted by Leslie and Neil Keddie

Eastern Shore General Court Criminal Judgments: 1782-1785 and 1777-1778, Abstracted by Leslie and Neil Keddie

Eastern Shore General Court Criminal Judgments: Vol. 2, 1779-1780, Abstracted by Leslie and Neil Keddie

The Eighteenth-Century Houses of Williamsburg, Marcus Whiffen

Elizabeth City County, Virginia: A Guide for Research in Elizabeth City County Records, Compiled and edited by James H. Mero

Emigrants to America: Indentured Servants Recruited in London 1718-1733, John Wareing

Emigrants to Pennsylvania, Edited by Michael Tepper

Encyclopedia of American Silver Manufacturers, Dorothy T. Rainwater

An Epic of One of the Families of Terra Mariae: The Legacy of William and Magdalen Stevens, 1651-2001, Robert T. Stevens III

The European Discovery of America: The Northern Voyages, A.D. 500-1600, Samuel Eliot Morison

The European Discovery of America: The Southern Voyages, A.D. 1492-1616, Samuel Eliot Morison

First Reader for Antique Collectors, Carl W. Drepperd

Footnotes to Dorchester History, Walter E. Huelle

For Maryland's Honor, Lloyd T. Everett

Foreign and Female: Immigrant Women in American, 1840-1930, Doris Weatherford

Fremont: Soldier, Explorer, Statesman, Fredrika Shumway Smith

Freshwater Families Research and Genealogy, Clara Edelblute, Ralph Freshwater and Harold Freshwater

Freshwater Families Research and Genealogy Second Edition, Clara Edelblute, Ralph Freshwater and Harold Freshwater

The Fulham Papers in the Lambeth Palace Library: American Colonial Section Calendar and Indexes, William Wilson Manross

Genealogical Data Relating to the German Settlers of Pennsylvania and Adjacent Territory, Edward W. Hocker

Genealogical and Local History Books in Print, Compiled by Netti Schreiner-Yantis

A General Introduction to Doomsday Book, Sir Henry Ellis, Vol 1

A General Introduction to Doomsday Book, Sir Henry Ellis Vol 2

German Family Research Made Simple, J. Konrad

The German Immigration Into Pennsylvania, Frank Ried Diffenderffer

The Githens Family in America 1741-1977, George Burling Githens

Guide To Bible Records, Compiled by Lyndon H. Hart III

A Guide to IRISH Churches and Graveyards, Brian Mitchell

A Guide to IRISH Parish Registers, Brian Mitchell

A Guide to Seventeenth-Century Virginia Court Handwriting, Kent P. Bailey and Ransom B. True

Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790: Pennsylvania, Government Printing Office

Historic Roads of Virginia: A Brief History of The Roads of Virginia 1607-1840, Nathaniel Mason Pawlett

Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution: Soldiers, Sailors, Marines 1775-1783, John H. Gwathme

History of the Colony and Ancient Dominion of Virginia, Charles Campbell

Houses Virginians Have Loved, Agnes Rothery (Bonanza Books)

How Justice Grew: Virginia Counties An Abstract o Their Formation, Martha W. Hiden.

Immigrants to the Middle Colonies, Edited by Michael Tepper

Index to Printed Virginia Genealogies, Robert A. Stewart G.P.C.

Irish Emigration Lists 1833-1839, Compiled by Brian Mitchell

Kent County, Maryland Court Land Records, 1648-1675, Libers A and B, Abstracted by Leslie and Neil Keddie

Kent County, Maryland Court Land Records, 1676-1692, Libers A, B and K, Abstracted by Leslie anc Neil Keddie

Land Ownership Maps, Richard W. Stephenson

Legacy From the Past: A Portfolio of Eighty-eight Original Williamsburg Buildings, The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

The Life of Dr. John Tankard, Georgianna Fizhugh

List of the Colonial Soldiers of VA, H. L. Eckenrode

Maryland's Eastern Shore: A Journey in Time and Place, John R. Wennersten

The Mapp Family on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, Compiled by N. Pierce Eichelberger

The Middletons and Kindred Families of Southern Maryland, Daniel B. Lloyd

Miracle at Philadelphia: The Story of the Constitutional Convention, May to September 1787, Catherine Drinker Bowen

Morton Allen Directory of European Passenger Steamship Arrivals 1890-1930, Morton Allan

Natives of the Eastern Shore of VA in the Methodis Ministry, Arthur L. Stevenson

Naturalizations of Foreign Protestants in the American and West Indian Colonies, Edited by M.S. Giuseppi

A New Genealogical Atlas Of Ireland, Brian Mitchell

Northampton County Virginia Record Book: Deeds, Wills and c, Volumes 6 and 7-8, 1655-1657, Dr. Howard Mackey and Marlene A. Groves
Northampton County Virginia Record Book: Deeds, Wills and c, Volumes 7, 1657-1666, Dr. Howard Mackey and Candy McMahan Perry
Oriental Rugs: An Updated Guide: Revised Second Edition, Charles W. Jacobsen
The Origins of Some Anglo-Norman Families, Lewis C. Lloyd and edited by Charles Travis Clay and David C. Douglas
Our Quaker Ancestors, Ellen Thomas Berry and David Allen Berry
The Parsons of the Islands: The Life and Times of Joshua Thomas, Adam Wallace
Passengers and Ships Prior to 1684, Penn's Colony: Volume I, Compiled by Walter Lee Sheppard Jr.
Pennsylvania German Immigrants 1709-1786, Edited by Don Yoder
Pennsylvania German Marriages: Marriages and Marriage Evidence in Pennsylvania German Churches, Compiled by Donna R. Irish
Pennsylvania German Pioneers Volume I and Volume II, by Ralph Beaver Strassburger, LL.D.
Pennsylvania Land Records: A History and Guide for Research, Donna Bingham Munger
Pittsville: An Eastern Shore Town's History, Louis (Casey) Parsons
Poems, Rev. John Wootten
Private Homes of Williamsburg: Today, Edited by W. Wilford Kale, Jr.
The Quit Rents of Virginia 1704, Compiled by Annie Laurie Wright Smith
Reluctant General: The Life and Times of Albert Pike, Robert Lipscomb Duncan
The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy, Val D. Greenwood
Rhineland Emigrants Lists of German Settlers in Colonial America, Edited by Don Yoder
Richard Haines and His Descendants: A Quaker Family of Burlington County, New Jersey Since 1682, Compiled by J.W. Haines
A Simplified Guide to Probate Jurisdictions, Compiled by J.S.W. Gibson
Some of the Earliest Oaths of Allegiance to the United States of America, Nellie Protsman Waldenmaier, A.B.
Somerset County: Land Office Debt Book, 1759, Abstracted by Leslie and Neil Keddie
S.P.G. Papers in the Lambeth Palace Library: Calendar and Indexes, William Wilson Manross
Stonewall Jackson and the American Civil War, Vols. I and II, Lieut. Col. G.F.R. Henderson
A Supplement to the 1810 Census of Virginia: Tax Lists for the Counties for which the Census Is Missing, Netti Schreiner-Yantis
Taylor Family Records, J. Montgomery Seaver
Telephone Directory for Salisbury-1947-1948, The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Baltimore City
The Three Charters of the Virginia Company of London with Seven Related Documents; 1606-1621, Samuel M. Bemiss
Tidewater Virginia Families, Virginia Lee Hutcheson Davis
Tracing Your Ancestors in the Public Record Office, Jane Cox and Timothy Padfield
Tracing Your Irish Ancestors, John Grenham
Understanding the Chesapeake, Arthur W. Sherwood
Unforgettable Treasures: People, Places and Culture of the Eastern Shore, Brice N. Stump
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